

THE GATEWAY

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Comp lit program saved

KRISTINE OWRAM
Associate News Editor

Due in part to an outpouring of support from students, faculty and alumni, the U of A's undergraduate comparative literature program will no longer be eliminated this fall, although the department of comparative literature, film and media studies, and religious studies will still be broken up.

Film and media studies will become part of the English department as of fall 2003, while religious studies and comparative literature will become part of a broader new interdisciplinary program, described as an "administrative umbrella for a variety of programs" by Dr. Jerry Varsava, current chair of the department.

The program will be administered by the Associate Dean of Arts and will allow professors from various departments to teach courses that are considered interdisciplinary.



CUT NO LONGER HARD TO FIND The department of comparative literature, chaired by Dr. Jerry Varsava, is now part of a broader interdisciplinary program.

"I think it was...the very strong support for the continuation of the program that was offered to us by current undergraduate and graduate students, alumni, and professors [that changed the administration's mind]."

DR. JERRY VARSAVA,
CURRENT CHAIR OF COMPARATIVE
LITERATURE, FILM AND MEDIA
STUDIES, AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

All current professors of comparative literature and religious studies will have to choose a new department to work from by fall.

In November 2002, Dean of Arts Dr. Daniel Woolf announced the existing department would be dismantled the following academic year. The most controversial part of the Dean's recommendation was a proposal to eliminate the undergraduate degree program in comparative literature.

Once the Dean made his announcement, an implementation committee was struck to discuss the possibilities for the future of the affected programs.

PLEASE SEE COMPLY • PAGE 3

Chili gets SETA banned from tabling in SUB

TINA SAWCHUK
News Writer

A decision last week to ban Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (SETA) from tabling in SUB for the rest of the school year has provoked an outcry from the group and a change in SU tabling policies to allow limited SUB food distribution.

"This is a Students' Union building and students are being selectively persecuted," said Greg Mady, SETA

president.

On 20 March, SETA planned to give away vegan chili in SUB to promote Meat Out!, a North American event providing people with the opportunity to try vegetarianism or veganism and to broaden their culinary horizons.

When group members began to hand out samples, Catherine van de Braak, the SU Executive Assistant, appeared within 15 minutes and asked them to stop.

Van de Braak said infractions were identified and dealt with case by case and could not specifically say how SETA was violating rules, Mady recounted.

The group continued their activity, and, after several more confrontations with SUB staff, were evicted. On 24 March, SETA was banned from tabling in SUB until next year. Van de Braak could not comment on the situation as an employee of the SU.

PLEASE SEE SETA • PAGE 3



SETA CHILI GETS THE COLD SHOULDER Greg Mady, SETA president, can't set up tables in SUB until next school year.

New Provost excited to be at U of A

SHERISE SZYMCAK
News Writer

The University of Alberta has a new Provost & Vice-President (Academic). Taking over from Doug Owram in July is Carl Amrhein, currently the Dean of Arts and Science at the University of Toronto.

As Provost & VP (Academic), Amrhein will be the senior University Vice-President, and will work together with the President in making policy on administrative and academic issues.

New to the system, Amrhein is hoping to have a good year while learning the ropes.

"My goals for next year are to survive, and not to make too many mistakes and to learn in detail what the Provost needs to know. I hope to work with the Board of Governors and the Students' Union not just on tuition, but also on accessibility."

He looks forward to a very close relationship with students. "I worked very closely with students in Toronto. I had met, as Dean, monthly with the Students' Union. We worked on a lot of projects together and I expect to do the same here."

PLEASE SEE NEW PROVOST • PAGE 3



17 Who's ever heard of a musician who's also a stuntman? No, no—aside from Ozzy Osbourne. The only way to find out is to flip to the A&E section and get yer read on.

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Outside

Thursday Snow, Jennifer Grey's nose got the car, he got the computer; High 7/Low -11
Friday More snow, twist and shout?
Darke schoen; High 2, Low -8
Saturday Even more snow, let my Cameron go; see High 2, Low -7
Sunday Snow, Save Ferris High 5, Low -7
Source: Environment Canada

From the archives

Would you like to lead the life of a princess? According to a full-page ad taken out by the Alberta Dairyman's Promotion Committee, featuring an oddly bovine artistic representation of youthful "beauty," "to lead the life of a princess, a girl needs the proper form"—the entry form for the Alberta Dairy Princess Pageant that is. The Alberta Dairy Princess competition promised to select a winner who would travel around this great province as "milk's goodwill ambassador" at schools, fairs, rodeos, and other special events."

1985

LAST ISSUE!
That's right folks, the Gateway is done its "real" publishing year. Stay tuned for funny next Tuesday!



26 With endings come sadness, especially after witnessing the death and mull that is the last instalment of Fish Grilsky's Space Cat High. Will Jefferson High ever be the same?

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from the Gateway Standing Long Jump competition.

Solar power system installed in Legislature

System part of
government's recently
developed 'action plan
on climate change'CATLIN CRAWSHAW
News Writer

A recently installed solar power system is now supplying the Alberta Legislature with renewable energy, as part of the Alberta government's "action plan on climate change."

The system was a joint project with Alberta Infrastructure and Alberta Environment, and has been providing the Legislature with electricity since 17 March. The idea has been in the works for about a year, according to Robert Moyle, the Assistant Director of Communications at Alberta

Environment.

"I think it's a strong signal that the government is committed to taking action on climate change and greenhouse gas emissions," he said.

The \$38 500 project is expected to save the government money and reduce emissions, but it also designed to test the feasibility of similar projects, said Moyle.

Gordon Howell, an electrical engineer whose firm installed the solar array, sees the project as exceptionally valuable for the renewable energy industry.

"It is going to become a wonderful tool for us and for the industry. It gives the technology credibility, it will help make people aware of the technology, it will help educate them, ... and it gives them the experience of it," he said. "It is very, very significant in that regard, even if it is so tiny in the big picture. But we all know that everything adds up."

WUISC gives refugees chance at degrees

CATLIN CRAWSHAW
News Writer

Unbeknownst to many students, \$0.72 of their SU fee helps to support refugee students attending the University of Alberta, through a little-known chapter of World University Services of Canada (WUSC).

According to Chantelle Leidel, the current chair of the U of A chapter of WUSC, WUSC started after the Second World War as an initiative of student groups in Europe, hoping to help students affected by the war continue their education.

Currently WUSC, which has branches in many countries, selects refugees from the Middle East, Africa and Asia to study abroad in more stable climates. They also nominate students for internship and seminar programs.

The money for the U of A WUSC chapter is distributed by the SU to the refugee students over four years to help with living expenses. The University

of Alberta waives tuition fees for these four years as well. All of this is facilitated by the local WUSC committee.

There are presently four students from the program attending the U of A, as well as two WUSC alumni. Hereb Bu and Mustafa Sidqi are two of the students currently in the program. Sidqi is a refugee student originally from Afghanistan, who is studying engineering. Bu, a student from Burma, is currently studying English as a Second Language (ESL).

Sidqi came to the U of A in 2001 to study in the faculty of science, but wound up switching to engineering.

His family had emigrated from Afghanistan to Pakistan ten years ago, but he could not find proper schooling to continue his education. He found out about WUSC from a friend, and though the competition was tough—WUSC selects only 15 people from Afghanistan to study abroad—Sidqi applied and was accepted two years later.

"I think [this system] is a strong signal that the government is committed to taking action on climate change and greenhouse gas emissions."**ROBERT MOYLE,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
OF COMMUNICATIONS,
ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT**

Howell sees the project as an example of rare environmental leadership on behalf of the provincial government.

When energy costs rose in 2000, for instance, the government gave out rebates without providing the leadership to promote an interest in the

environment, he said.

"The government, because they saw it as an opportunity for votes—nothing to do with leadership—they gave us rebates so that the net cost of the energy was not as severe," said Howell. "They didn't give us the leadership saying, 'Guys, don't just go and have a party with this money. There are some very important things you need to do with this money. The next time the rates go so high, you'll be insulated from them.'"

Moreover, although some environmental woes can be solved with renewable energy like solar power, Howell argued that the more economically feasible approach continues to be energy efficiency.

"There's a lot of interesting renewable energy. There needs to be a lot of interest in energy efficiency because energy efficiency is the cheapest option."

Arriving in Canada, he found the greatest difficulty was with the system of schooling.

"The system was completely different from the one in Afghanistan, because here you have to make your own schedule, but in Afghanistan the schedule is given to you and you have to attend the classes," he said. "Listening to the lectures, writing, taking notes, everything was hard for me. ... [But] I could go forward if I just kept trying, so now it's getting better."

But being away from family and friends has also posed a difficult challenge.

"It's not a large Afghan community here. Everyone is busy, and also campus is separated, an isolated area. Especially when you're busy with your school, it's hard to meet people. In the one-and-a-half years I've been here, there have been some times that I have felt so lonely. ... Especially during the holidays—those are the times I feel lonely."

female student exited the northwest corner of the Medical Sciences Building and noticed a man near the bike racks who had removed the lock from her bike. The suspect was scared off. He is described as a bearded Caucasian, about 35 years old with a thin build, wearing black clothing and a black backpack.

CREEPY SLEEPER

On 1 April at 9:48am, constables responded to a report of a male sleeping in the pathway between HUB and the Fine Arts Building. The suspect provided a false name, but one of the officers recognized the man from a prior incident. After a short investigation, it was discovered the man had been trespassing from campus before, had three outstanding warrants for his arrest, and had a history of violence with weapons. He was arrested immediately.

VIOLENT FUGITIVE SUBDUED

At 3am on 2 April, an auxiliary officer patrolling on the east side of HUB Hall came across two males consuming liquor from a large bottle. A record check revealed that one of the males was wanted for assault and four additional warrants, and was on probation for uttering threats. He was also gang-affiliated. He was cuffed and transported to a waiting Campus Security squad car, where he kicked the window and struggled to get out of the car. He was subdued and taken back to the Campus

and I want to talk to my family."

For Bu, who fled Burma in 1992 for a Thai refugee camp, applying for the WUSC program was very risky. "Because we live in the camps, we have to travel into towns and it's dangerous. You can get arrested by the Thai Police because you don't have the papers to travel. You have to be really, really careful."

With his degree, Bu said he intends to return to Burma one day to teach, and to document the people who are abused—anything to help.

He is extremely grateful for the chance he's been given by WUSC to study here.

"When I was in Burma, we had to move from place to place because of the fighting. Back there you don't have a future," he said.

"The [violence] started when I was young so sometimes I feel like we got used to it. ... When I arrived here in Canada, it was kind of strange, because here it's free. It's a good country."

Security holding cells, then handed over to Edmonton Police.

PARTING WORDS

This is the last Crime Beat of the term, but judging from past years, we can predict fairly accurately what's going to happen in the next few months. As the weather warms up, we'll see a resurgence of transients and non-affiliated people wandering around campus, particularly late in the evening. HUB Hall will continue to be a hotspot as the URT and buses bring in people from all over the city. Bike thefts will jump drastically, as will the presence of criminal youth. On the plus side, students and staff are becoming more aware of what's going on around them, leading to more calls to Campus Security, more apprehensions and better deterrence.

"Think security and safety," advises Sgt. Darcy Pennock, Coordinator of the Community and Crime Prevention unit of Campus Security. "As all the trees and vegetation start to fill in, visibility is obscured."

This is especially true of Saskatchewan Drive, where the river valley meets campus and there is plenty of foliage to use as cover.

"Call us if you see anything suspicious," urges Pennock. "Even if it strikes you as a little odd or out of place, we'll come by and take a look."

You can contact Campus Security at 492-5050.

CAMPUS
CRIME BEATCompiled by **Barrie Tanner**
(btanner@ualberta.ca)

GIMME SOME MORPHINE

Just before noon on 26 March, a staff member in the Dentistry building reported that a patient he was working on became angry with the pain in his mouth and threatened to break off the dentist's fingers. Officers arrived to find the patient, who was not a student or staff member, still very agitated. He was given a verbal trespass from University property and was asked to leave immediately.

LOOKING FOR TROUBLE

On 28 March at about 8:30pm, constables confronted a suspicious male loitering near the front door of the Fine Arts Building. He had an extensive criminal history, including violence and sexual offences. He was trespassing and escorted out of campus.

THIS AIN'T NO TRUCK STOP

At 4:23am on 29 March, officers on routine patrol of Michener Park home area passed a parked out in his truck in the Galbraith Parking Lot. Edmonton Police arrested the man for impaired

driving. He was not affiliated with the University.

AGGRESSIVE PANHANDLER ARRESTED

On 29 March, constables confronted an aggressive, drunk panhandler in HUB mall after receiving numerous complaints. He stated he had hepatitis B and threatened to spit in people's faces. He was arrested immediately for public intoxication.

LISTENERS UP

At nearly 3am on 30 March, Lister Hall staff reported a male with a cut forearm bleeding profusely. The victim claimed he was going to take a shower, slipped and smashed his arm through two panes of glass. He displayed signs of intoxication and admitted to have drank numerous drinks that evening. The stumbler required 30 stitches to close the wound in his arm.

THAT'S NOT THE BACK OF A BENZY!

At 4am on 30 March, officers on off-campus patrol came across a vehicle parked near the University Tennis Centre. As officers approached, they detected a strong odor of marijuana emanating from the vehicle. The driver received a 24-hour suspension, two drug pills were removed, and the occupants walked home.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT

On 31 March at about 2:30pm, a

Amrhein isn't afraid of elitism

But new Provost is still concerned about accessibility for qualified students

NEWPROVOST • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

But while getting acquainted with campus, Amrhein has some thoughts on tackling issues currently facing the U of A.

Differential tuition is a situation he supervised while U of T, and he hopes he can ensure the extra fees make a difference.

"In both cases [of differential fees he supervised at the U of T] we've been able to hire more faculty, we've also put in place a large investment in student counselling and student career services so the differential tuition has gone back to the students."

With the issue of making the University an elite institution in Alberta, Amrhein is similarly optimistic that change can be positive.

"I'm not afraid of the word 'elite.' It doesn't mean arrogant, or stand-offish. Elite can be a good thing, and I think major universities such as Alberta should be elite. We should have high standards and rigorous assessment. Elite means equal to the very best, in my view."

Relocating from Toronto with his wife and three sons, Amrhein says he will be happy to face less traffic, less congestion and a lower cost of living. Most of all, however, he is delighted about the weather: "I like cold, winter and snow."

Off-campus interests for Amrhein include enjoying science fiction movies and television shows. He is a big fan of the *Lord of the Rings*

film trilogy, he says, but his all-time favourites reside in *Star Wars* and *Star Trek*.

Amrhein has an undergraduate degree from Pennsylvania State University in earth and mineral sciences. He also has a PhD from the State University of New York in economic geography, specializing in industrial engineering, transportation systems and demography.



LIVE LONG AND PROSPER New Provost Carl Amrhein settles in at the U of A.

"Students who have the academic preparation and the academic standing should be able to come to the U of A without worrying about finances."

CARL AMRHEIN, INCOMING UNIVERSITY VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC) AND PROVOST

Accessibility, however, is something that he also believes in.

"Students who have the academic preparation and the academic standing should be able to come to the U of A without worrying about finances. Students who are qualified to join the elite institution shouldn't be prevented from joining because of financial reasons."

Besides looking forward to working at the U of A this year, Amrhein is excited to be living in Edmonton.

SU will revise tabling policy to deal with food

SETA • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, SU Vice-President (Operations & Finance) Steve Smith, who authorized the ban, said SETA was told they could not give out food when they booked the table, as stated by the SUB tabling and displays policy.

"The salient thing is that they were told they could not give out chili, and they went ahead and did it anyway," said Smith.

But Mady said they did not ask permission to give out food beforehand because they were unaware of written rules for tabling that prohibited the action.

Smith also believes that SETA was not threatening vendors. "One, you can't get chili in the food court, so it's not direct competition. Two, it wasn't a full meal, unless you're anorexic. Three, other groups give away food all the time," he maintained.

Kyle Kawamura, Chris Jones' campaign manager in this year's SU elections, said they had no trouble from vendors or administration when giving away Kool-Aid during the campaign.

No SUB vendors filed official complaints against SETA, but reactions

were mixed. Julie Hawkins, a Java Jive employee, said they shouldn't have given out chili without permission. But Ping Lu, who works at Tim Hortons, said, "If no one else in SUB serves chili, then one day [of giving it out] would be fine."

"If you're a vegan, you can't eat on campus. If that weren't the case, we wouldn't have to give chili away."

GREG MADY, SETA PRESIDENT

With the ban in place, Mady is now concerned about his group's future in SUB.

"A red flag might go up when they see our request for tabling next year," SETA. Oh. Those kids. And we'd be denied," he worried.

But Smith assured there won't be any discrimination. "Come 1 May, although ... there might be residual annoyance at them, they will be allowed back in as long as they follow

policy," he confirmed.

Both SETA and SU administration want clarification following this incident. SETA wants tabling rules in writing and more alternative foods to be sold on campus.

"If you're a vegan, you can't eat on campus. If that weren't the case, we wouldn't have to give chili away," Mady stressed.

Smith saw the incident as clear-cut, but admitted that SETA may not have known about the tabling rules.

Although he said an employee should have reviewed the rules when they booked the table, he mentioned, "[SETA] probably hasn't seen a written copy."

An SU Executive meeting on 2 April decided the ban would stand, but policy would be changed to allow small portions of food to be given away.

SU staff will also have specific guidelines for handling groups booking tables to ensure rules are clear.

The Executive will also encourage SETA to appeal to the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board, the SU's highest court of appeal, if they feel the decision is unfair.



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U of A considers waiving PhD tuition

LEAH COLLINS
Associate News Editor

Competition to attract top scholars for PhD programs is heating up between Canadian universities.

Last week, the University of British Columbia's Board of Governors announced it would waive tuition fees, a value of approximately \$3200 a year, for the first four years of full-time doctoral students' studies. UBC's announcement of guaranteed funding for PhD students—as well as similarly enticing offers to PhD students made by the University of Toronto in 2001 (PhD students there are guaranteed funding of \$12 000 annually)—has the University of Alberta contemplating whether it should offer similar incentives to bring PhD students to campus.

The possibility of such incentives has Graduate Student Association President Brad Wuetherick very excited and waiting to see how other universities respond.

"A tuition waiver type program here at the U of A, I think, is a minimum if you're going to compete with what some of the other institutions are going to do. It's a good time to be a grad student. It's a good time to consider going to grad school if you're an undergrad," he said jovially.

"It bodes well for graduate studies across the country, and to the accessibility of PhD programs across the country when these types of things are being implemented. Because frankly, after finishing a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree with a whole lot of debt, these types of programs to

convince people to go into the PhD program are worthwhile. It's not that much money to the various universities involved, but it is a lot of money to the students who receive the support."

"A tuition waiver type program here at the U of A, I think, is a minimum if you're going to compete with what some of the other institutions are going to do."

**BRAD WUETHERICK, PRESIDENT,
GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

Wuetherick hopes the U of A will "follow the coattails" of UBC, but U of A Vice-President (Academic) and Provost Doug Owram is unsure if UBC's model is one the U of A will follow. Owram says the University has, since U of T's announcement of guaranteed funding for PhD students, been definitely contemplating how to attract PhD students.

Owram estimates approximately 80 per cent of current U of A PhD students receive enough funding to cover their tuition, leaving around 20 per cent who receive nothing or relatively little.

"So if you're trying to attract students, the question is where you put your money and does guaranteeing everyone \$4000, \$5000 really attract the best students, because the best stu-

dents will want a lot more than that anyway."

"If people want to go to an institution, they'll go to an institution. They're not going to change their mind for \$5000. They might change their mind for \$20 000 because it'll give them enough to live on."

For Owram, the biggest attraction for PhD students would be an offer of full living-support scholarships.

But such an offer will be a huge challenge for the University. Owram cited U of T as having difficulties with their \$12 000 guarantee: large numbers of students in the education program have not been funded at \$12 000, and the institution is forced to watch its enrolment very carefully; every time a student enrolls, the cost of instruction plus the promised \$12 000 must be provided.

But the U of A is researching what plan of attack will best suit it, and Owram said Dean of Graduate Studies Mark Dale is currently investigating the financial situation and possibilities for the University's best PhD enticing strategy.

A decision on how the University will proceed could be ready between the end of spring and the fall. Ultimately, Owram expects nothing will be affected until around 2005.

But, said Owram, as universities across the country have recognized a need for PhDs in the next ten to 15 years, especially to replace professorial positions, the University must remain competitive with other institutions.

"However we do it, we have to ensure we're competitive. We want to get the best students."



"IT'S A GOOD TIME TO BE A GRAD STUDENT" GSA President Brad Wuetherick



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Hudema positive about past year in office

JENNIFER PABILANO
News Editor

It seems Mike Hudema always stays positive. Even when describing the low points of his year as SU President, Hudema prefers to turn defeat into opportunity: the Board of Governors' approval of differential fees was just a window for new ideas.

"The way I look at everything is basically, if something doesn't work right, then how can we make it better? Even the stuff that works better, how can we make it better?" said Hudema.

"With the tuition campaign, I'm already thinking of what we could do in the future, stuff that we're trying to do right now, with the coalition between AGC [the provincial graduate students lobby group] and ACTSIC [the provincial college and technical institute lobby group]."

It's this attitude that's motivated Hudema all year after winning last year's SU elections. A second-year law student with an education degree behind him, Hudema never expected to win: he ran to raise awareness of environmental issues, and to motivate students to be more active. But when the results were tallied, Hudema gave it his best.

"The way I look at everything is basically, if something doesn't work right, then how can we make it better? Even the stuff that works better, how can we make it better?"

SU PRESIDENT, MIKE HUDEMA

"I hadn't been planning for it in my life. I was planning to be back in law school and participating in the groups I did. It was definitely a big change in my social life—I had a partner at that time and that totally shifted that and made it really hard. But it also gave me the opportunity and the resources to do a lot of wonderful things I thought should have been done."

Hudema feels what he's done this year has been very successful, singling out the new ECOS office and the tuition



HE'S OKAY BY CHÉI SU pre Mike Hudema reflects on his chicken-free term.

campaign as especially effective. With tuition, not only did students turn out in the hundreds for a rally, but a concerted campaign was made to inform Alberta public opinion about education.

"The provincial Conservatives meeting in Red Deer passed two resolutions saying they have to address rising tuition costs. This was never on the books before, but I think this year we were able to start that conversation in a lot more homes," he said.

The criticism he received about the SU's antagonistic stance toward the University administration, he explained, was simply a failure to communicate with students properly. For the past three years, he said, SU Executives had been critical of the University in the same funding areas, but when the University didn't take them into account when looking to cut costs, criticism was stepped up this year.

"And most of that campaign was completely centred on campus, because we wanted our message to outside sources to be about the province and how we need more funding. But internally our campaign focused more on the University. And we still believe that there is \$8 million in the University budget that could be saved," he said.

"Also, people feel we have a strained relationship with the University, which

I don't feel we do. I still have regular meetings with [University Vice-President (Academic) and Provost] Doug Owram, and [Dean of Students] Bill Connor and I are going to the City of Edmonton, Strathcona and St. Albert to help subsidize the U-Pass."

For his successor, current SU Vice-President (Academic) Matt Brechtel, Hudema suggests that he continue to do as many activities as possible, and push for more in the tuition fight. "I do think we have a really good template for a campaign this year that could be improved next year. ... I think it needs to be done for the next five years."

He says he'll probably stay out of the limelight on campus next year, as he returns to law school to continue his degree, but he will certainly keep working for issues he cares about: protesting the war in Iraq, for instance, and of course, environmental issues.

But Hudema won't be hanging up his chicken suit any time soon, though he still gets some flak about it from students.

"Whenever it needs to come out again, it will come," he said, laughing.

"My response [to criticism] is what are you going to do with ten people to get the same amount of attention and focus on issues? The second thing is that you're still asking about it, so you still remember it. It still brought a lot of attention to the issue."

Comp lit coordinator worries about program's future

COMPLUT • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This committee consisted of three sub-committees: one for each program in the department. It was when the implementation committee heard the reports of the three sub-committees that the final decisions were made.

"I think it was the preponderance of evidence regarding the success of the program, as well as the very strong support for the continuation of the program that was offered to us by current undergraduate and graduate students, alumni, and professors [that changed the administration's mind]," said Varsava, who sat on the implementation committee.

"There was a great deal of concern expressed by people from a variety of constituencies," he added. "In fact, very little support was expressed at all for the elimination of the program."

A quick look at enrolment figures explains why. Course registrations in comparative literature have jumped from 692 students in the 1999-2000 academic year to 1015 as of January 2003, said Varsava.

Needless to say, those involved were relieved to hear their program will

still exist next year. However, concerns remain that the new structure will not be as effective as the current departmental organization.

"I was delighted that they decided to keep it. It was what I expected, and it was what I had been fighting for. However, there's a sense of profound sadness also at the outcome of the whole process."

MARISA BORTOLUSSI,
COORDINATOR,
COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

"I was delighted that they decided to keep it. It was what I expected, and it was what I had been fighting for," said Marisa Bortolussi, current coordinator

of comparative literature. "However, there's a sense of profound sadness also at the outcome of the whole process, because while we'll be allowed to survive, we've been put in a very precarious situation."

She expressed concern that comparative literature will no longer be part of a stable departmental structure but instead will belong to a unit that doesn't even exist yet.

"We're not persuaded that we're going to anything stronger or better," she said.

However, Woolf assures those involved that the new structure will only improve the program.

"I'm comfortable that the direction we're taking is actually going to improve the teaching of these disciplines," he said.

"This opens up the possibility of adding resources [from other department] without spending more money, while preserving the identity of comp lit at the same time."

The decision to change the current department structure will be ratified by the General Faculty Council (GFC) this spring.

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INSIGHT INTO IRAQ

THE LEGALITY OF WAR

DR ANDY KNIGHT



Dr Andy Knight is a professor specializing in Canadian foreign policy and global politics, with a particular focus on the role of the United Nations (UN). He is currently editor of the renowned journal Global Governance, which examines multilateralism and international organizations.

Should the US be fighting this war?

I have always maintained that this is an illegal and unjust war according to international law.

The US has never given a very clear rationale for this war and as well, their motives appear to be mixed... The UN Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) was an attempt to use coercive inspections to accomplish disarmament of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. However, the US didn't have the patience to wait this process through, as it is rather time consuming. The US needs Iraq oil to kickstart its economy: through controlling Iraq, the US can control OPEC, and thereby increase oil production.

The UN Charter outlaws war except for two reasons: when a state is attacked, or because of course self-defence, which can be individual or collective—such as was the case in the 1991 Gulf War—and secondly, if a state is violating international peace and security. If that's the case, then collective action can take place to neutralize this threat.

The UN Charter is the only universally accepted document that provides laws governing war and the approval of war. With this criteria, there is no acceptable justification to go to war with Iraq. Iraq was already being disarmed, it had begun destroying its Al-Samoud missiles, and weapons inspectors were keeping a close watch on any weapons programs. Claiming that Iraq has weapons of mass destruction without any proof isn't sufficient.

Do you see an operational link between 11 September and Iraq?

The links between Al-Qaeda and Saddam Hussein were spurious at best, and... appeared for the most part, fabricated. Just because a member of Al-Qaeda was receiving medical treatment in Iraq is not a direct link. If that were the case, Canada and even the US would be considered to be harbouring terrorists.

As well, Saddam and bin Laden do not share any love for each other: Saddam is a secular leader while bin Laden is an Islamic fundamentalist. It's extremely improbable they would ever co-operate on something. The same issues that bin Laden has with the West, he has with Saddam. 11 September is a tactic that Bush has been using to galvanize public opinion to support the war of course, the American public will support a war in Iraq if it perceives a link between it and 11 September.

All nation states have to contribute to international law, and everyone has to be subject to it. You see a pattern where the

US has denigrated international laws and convention: Kyoto, the landmine treaty, the Convention of the sea, the rights of the child, the International Court of Justice, and so on.

This undermines international order and creates a new international order of vigilantism. If you want a world that is law abiding, you have to abide by it even when it's not to your convenience. That's the paradox of this war.

The US is citing time and time again where Iraq is breaking international law, but the US fails to recognize they themselves have also never completely followed it.

What occurs now is a global community that can have one country invading another country without the proper legal framework, and who's to say they should? Without the rule of law, we have an international community with a whole bunch of outlaws. It's the Wild West scenario repeating itself.

How would you characterize coverage of the war by major US media outlets and other media sources?

For one, I'm sick and tired of the US media. The US media coverage is despicable. It does not give any semblance of balanced reporting, but acts as a cheerleader for the US military. The embedded journalists are a travesty of fair reporting. CNN has lost a lot of its credibility that it once had to present the news. Looking at the two wars, Bernard Shaw and his colleagues did a much more fair job of reporting the war back in 1991 than the current crop of journalists such as Christiane Amanpour and Wolf Blitzer.

The coverage we're seeing does not give any insight into the actual horrors of war: the tremendous amount of loss and suffering that is being felt. The war, like any war, is a deadly thing: children are dying, innocent people are losing their lives, there are shrapnel wounds, loss of limbs.

None of this is being shown because, of course, this would cause the American public to question of the ethics of this war, and would hamstring any war plans. What we're seeing is what looks like a game. PowerPoint presentations and computer-generated graphics make this war look like a game of Risk. It sanitizes the real face of war, as the war is not all American armour racing through the desert, skyline shots of Baghdad, or really bad videotape images.

Much better coverage is found elsewhere. The CBC is doing something called contextual journalism, which is giving background information that led up to the current situation, and why things are happening as they are now.

What role do you see for the United Nations in this situation?

There are two major roles for the United Nations, one that will most likely happen, and another that probably won't but should.

First, the UN will take a humanitarian role, helping out with the refugee crisis, supplying aid in the form of water, food, and other basic necessities; it already has a great deal of expertise in this area. We've already seen direction taken in this area with the resumption of the "oil for food" program.

Second, the role the UN should take, but the US isn't allowing, is post-conflict reconstruction. You have to dispel the myth that the US is going in there to colonize Iraq by not having the UN set up the post-conflict government, and instead have the US set up a military administration for an indefinite period of time, which again points to US economic interests taking priority.

economic interests taking priority.

ON THE GROUND IN IRAQ

DR SALEEM QURESHI



Dr Saleem Qureshi is a professor emeritus of Middle East politics. He currently teaches courses that deal with Islamic fundamentalism and contemporary Islamic movements, and Middle Eastern and South Asian politics.

Political scientist Samuel Huntington is famous for his "Clash of Civilizations" theory, which said the post-Cold War global order would be defined by conflicts between cultures, like the West versus Islam. Is this a clash of fundamentalisms or of civilizations, as defined by Huntington?

Huntington defines his civilizations as cultures, yet neither Islam nor the West are monolithic cultures and don't act as one entity. Canada, Germany, and France, by definition are just as much a part of the West, yet they're not taking part in the war. It's the same thing with Islam: there are more Islamic countries than that, but they aren't taking part in the war either.

How would you characterize the Bush administration's motivations for war?

I definitely see ideological motivations. Whoever doesn't conform to the US design is considered unacceptable. The character of this design is really having your state open to US interference, especially economically. It doesn't matter that you're a democracy, it just matters that you agree with what the US is doing.

In addition, oil is a huge motivating factor. The US economy is stagnant, and the American people will only ignore it for so long. Once the US can gain control of Iraq oil, it can use it to fund the renewal of the US economy.

Palestine also factors in. There is a huge Jewish lobby in the US government that sees this as a way to resolving the Palestinian conflict. Iraq has never been a friend of Israel's and this gets rid of that enemy, and provides a location to relocate the Palestinian people away from Israel.

Do you think democracy will be established?

It's difficult to believe that attacking and brutalizing a country will turn it around to the attackers point of view. This is one of the main failures and mistakes of the Bush administration. Democracy has to be nurtured and grown from the ground up, not forced. How would the US react if China attacked the US to bring it democracy? It is of the same measure.

Things change in societies, but it is more as a result of the internal dynamics than it is by external forces. This is where Bush is wrong, and so is the destiny of Iraq: to be governed by tyrants and liberated by murderers.

Why is Operation Iraqi Freedom not going exactly as planned? Where is this unforeseen resistance coming from?

With the war in Iraq dominating media coverage, the *Gateway* turned to U of A experts to shed some light on the issues. *Gateway* writer Shawn Hildebrandt asked three professors from the political science department for their thoughts on the current conflict, its global impacts, and its effect in the United States.

The US believed there would be no resistance because there was no love for Saddam amongst most of the population. Of course that's true, but there's an even greater hatred for the West. What can you expect if you've been bombed out of your home, then told to rise up against Saddam, and are then betrayed by the US [who promised to support Iraqi rebellions after the first Gulf War]? Furthermore, the Iraqi people have been brutalized by economic sanctions for over a decade. It's been estimated over 500,000 Iraqi children have died as a result. That number only scratches the surface of the hardship that the Iraqi people have had to face, on account of, they believe, the US. So, yes, there's going to be resistance. The Americans are going to be seen as invaders, even in the Shi'a south the Shi'a are a minority sect of Islam: Iraq is ruled by the Sunni Islamic sect. You're not going to see people waving to their American "liberators," accepting them with wide open arms and flowers. Remember, the Shi'a are Arabs too, and will fight against the invaders because of as much. The US has done nothing to prove to them that they are their friends.

BACK IN THE US

DR JUDITH GABER



Dr Judith Gaber is an associate professor of political science, whose teaching and research areas focus on US politics and urban politics.

How do you characterize the Bush administration's approach to Iraq?

Unlike many people, I don't believe the primary motivating factor for Bush is oil, but rather ideology.

He clearly believes there is right and wrong in the world, and that America and its supporters are good. Those who don't are against them and are evil—he talks about evil and it has direct religious overtones to it. It's as if in his mind there's a grand battle between good and evil, and good is represented by America.

I'm willing to believe that Bush is troubled by 11 September, Saddam Hussein and his atrocities, and the rights of the Kurds. But also think that in Bush's mind, he believes the American way of life is being attacked, good is being attacked, and America should therefore defend itself against evil by whatever means necessary.

That's why it's a unilateral rather than a multilateral approach; because of this, it's more ideology than any concrete reasons that I can see... [It's] protecting the way of life that you value and believe is the best in the world.

However, it's extremely troubling that the Bush administration has not been consistent and that there's actually no reason for doing this now as opposed to three years ago. I think the connection to 11 September is dubious at best.

What is the difference between this war and Afghanistan?

11 September was a virtual declaration of war. Although it may not have been by a nation-state, it had to be stopped from happening again, and it probably wouldn't have happened again if action weren't taken. You can't have people hijacking planes and crashing them into big buildings. It was a definite security threat.

However, Iraq is different. It's not clear what is the US or global security interest in Iraq because it hasn't been proven. And if it's not in the US's interest, then it has to be the world interest. But if all these other countries aren't participating, then how do you know there's an international interest? Those interests are being taken into account here?

It's not because of the Kurds or they wouldn't intervene when they were first gassed in 1988, or when they were being attacked by Saddam in 1991 after their uprising instead of letting them flap in the wind. Clearly, the US did not support the Iraqi opposition to Saddam after the first Gulf War.

How will the war be directed by the American public opinion or its progress?

If the war does go on for a long time, public support will definitely go down. Troops on the front aren't getting basic supplies and food. It's predictable to see US public opinion go up once military action has been taken—that's always happened in the US since military action has been started—but whether that remains high will be dependent on the war's outcome.

How will President Bush and the Republican party face politically in the upcoming elections?

Well, this war has proved that Bush is vulnerable. The US economy has tanked, it's been in recession for two-and-a-half years, and no serious attention is being paid to the economy on the part of the administration. Bush is already starting to get rolled in Congress. Last week the Senate voted to halve the tax cuts that Bush put forth. So he's already starting to be challenged, including by some Republicans.

This proves he's not invincible. It really depends on how the war goes, and we do have a model in his father [who lost the election after the first war, with poor economic performance happening at home]. Americans are very, very sensitive to the economy, and by not paying attention to it or by only paying attention to it by cutting taxes and forcing budget deficits is not a good thing to do when you're running for office. The entire slump cannot all be attributed to 11 September. But as well, the Democrats are going to have to come up with a credible candidate, and I don't see that happening either.

How will the American psyche be affected by this constant war readiness?

People are putting up with a lot more restrictions to their civil liberties, loss of freedom of speech, arrests for terrorism-related activities, etc. I think many Americans have become rather wary of the restrictions placed on their civil liberties. I was in the Minneapolis airport last night, and you have a recorded voice come on with a message from the Department of Homeland Security telling you to watch your bags as the terrorist warning has moved up to orange. It's very George Orwell, and very weird and scary. The 2004 elections will tell the tale if the American public is ready to move on.

OPINION

managing@gateway.ualberta.ca • Thursday, 3 April, 2003

A farewell

To be a king and wear a crown, is a thing more glorious to them that see it, than it is pleasant to them that bear it.

— Queen Elizabeth I

In the early hours of 24 March 1603, after 45 years on the throne, Queen Elizabeth passed away. It is said she found life as a monarch "glorious at times, but it was a difficult, demanding, and often very lonely task."

The people who've sat where I am now didn't usually begin their valedictions on such a sombre note. I feel it is apt, however, I've never been the Queen of England (much to my dismay), but I am empathetic to a certain extent.

I'd like to think I've succeeded this year, succeeded in offering you a sharp, witty, informative and entertaining publication filled with diversity, pleasing to any and all who care to pick it up. But I can't help but feel I've failed, and I must keep reminding myself that this was not an easy job—and seldom was it glorious.

Thus, the demise of my reign as Editor-in-Chief is filled with great relief. I've spent my four years at the Gateway toiling away behind the scenes, and my now-leathery hands—worked by the cruelest of un-ergonomic keyboards and perilous wax machines—off small of soy-based ink and newsprint. In terms of mool, I'm looking forward to returning to the sanctuary of six classes each semester.

I probably sound like an ungrateful old crank. It's easy for us Gateway kids to forget how good we have it: twice each week, a number of us congregate in this fantastic love of an office to throw bundles of newspaper, curse and taunt each other, and hold standing-long-jump contests. And then we make a newspaper and get paid to boot. All of this we do in the company of some (for the most part) very intelligent, very humorous, and very friendly people.

If it weren't for the Gateway, I guarantee I would not be as educated, enlightened or, frankly, lucky as I am today. I've made some of those oh-so-sought-after lifetime friends, and I've garnered opportunities aplenty. There's been a constant symbiosis between me and the Gateway: one where I offer it my heart and soul to manage and crush, and it offers me benefits to make it bearable—but benefits that will last long after my time here.

Before I embark on the next leg of this wondrous journey that is life, a thank-you is due to my very own Gray Lady. The Gateway is like a pleasant dream that you don't really want to end. But sooner or later, the alarm clock rings. Sure, it's warm and cozy between the covers, but if you don't rise from your peaceful slumber, you'll never get that quantum mechanics assignment done.

In conclusion, I shall do the expected, and attempt to be profound in my speech from the throne, as so many Editors-in-Chief have done before me. Presently, I will lambaste you with the tired yet pertinent clichés guaranteed to inspire you and move your spirit—the powerful clichés that incite revolutions:

Get involved; I'll make you smarter and you'll probably meet some wonderful people. Talk to each other; discuss and debate the issues of the day. Make new friends; don't hang out with just those you know in high school. Stay in school; don't do drugs, and just say no—all good advice. See a band or read a book you've never heard of. And for heaven's sake, if you don't do any of this, please, at least be nice to each other.

Farewell, and Godspeed.

DAVID ZIEBIN
Editor-in-Chief, 2002-2003

500 quatloos on the newcomer

IMAGINE MY SURPRISE when I awoke to discover that a hiring committee decided I should be the Gateway's Managing Editor next year.

Look out for some terrific opinions next year, kids. And get ready to write letters. It's gonna be one hell of a year.

ADAM ROZENHART
Incoming Managing Editor

LETTERS

Krause and Bell sum up America and war perfectly

I want to thank both Chris Krause ("America: It's far too easy to ridicule you," 25 March) and Colin Bell ("Anti-war protesters are a nasty bunch," 1 April) for their contradictory, yet oddly complementary, opinion pieces. I think this dichotomy reflects the way I feel about the war in Iraq better than either article possibly could alone.

I mean, why exactly is it that no one, no nation (or group of nations), stands up to the USA, laughs at their government's oil-and-blood-stained face, and puts them in their place?

And at the same time, why are we so very eager to protest the injustices and atrocities committed elsewhere, but we've completely ignored those committed here in Canada?

As a side note, I was thinking about the Alberta pro-war rallies. What does a pro-war rally look like?

I wasn't there, obviously, and I'm just trying to picture the placards they might have been waving. I'm trying to envision the exact opposite of those I saw at the peace march, like "Blood for oil is a good bargain." "Violence is the answer." "George W. Bush has a really high IQ." and "Bombs are great." You know, somehow just can't picture it.

KELLY SHEPHERD
Education IV

Walk the walk, Bell

In response to Colin Bell's "Anti-War Protesters Are A Nasty Bunch" (1 April), Colin, people are dying. Innocent people, in a dubious war. And you watch it on TV.

At least some people have the courage to take the bullsh*t head-on. Those people on the streets are shouting at the evil being perpetrated, they care, and many of those protesters are working on the multifaceted and interconnected problems of oppression through whatever means they have at their disposal, and the forums they have power in aren't numerous.

You have your column, and by the record of your past articles, you're failing to use even that power for anything more than calling down the actions of others. Why don't you do an article highlighting the "appalling conditions that the First Nations people of Canada endure" rather than just talk about it?

THOMAS MAGUIRE
Open Studies

An invitation...

I am glad to see Colin Bell on his way to becoming a great columnist, all bombast and glowing accusation without a shred of personal experience to back up his arguments.

If Colin would truly like to see the face of the anti-war movement, all he has to do is put on his toque and come out to the march this Saturday. He will likely see a few professors from the faculties of Engineering and English with their families, as I did at the last demonstration. He will likely see members of church groups out, as I did. He will

likely see members of charity and local art galleries out, as I did.

Of the 15 000 to 18 000 that attended the last march, I did not see one act of violence.

So, could it be that you've exaggerated things a little, Colin? Isn't it disingenuous to paint this movement as something uniformly ignorant and having a predilection for violence? Could it be, in fact, you who are unwilling to engage in a dialogue?

Please, come out this Saturday and speak to some of us and prove my suspicions unfounded.

MARK KELLS
BA, English

Bears hockey Superfan says U of A sports are number one

The reason the U of A sports are number one is because they give all their best to achieve their goals and do their best to win their games, even though some teams did not win their most important games. But they all did their best to make the fans proud of them during the games they played.

They also focused on the team to bring them together as a family for support of a loss of a loved one, like myself.

When my mom died last October, the most support I had was from the Bears and Pandas hockey teams. They all told me not to give up and that they were all here for me. All the other teams, coaches and staff, too, said they were there for me, and that I should keep my chin up. They also expressed that they wanted me to get better, and that they wanted what was best for me.

I also really enjoyed working with many of the different teams, especially the Bears and Pandas hockey teams, doing ticket taking, security, and most of all, cheering them to a win, and if they're losing, telling them I'm still there for them, even when they feel like shit.

I enjoy watching the teams practice, especially Bears hockey. It shows me they want to do their very best at their drills, and I also enjoy helping out in whatever is needed, such as water bottles, collecting hockey pucks and telling the guys "awesome job" during practice. I also tell them I'm proud for them to do their best in school and practice.

They all tell me they want all the best for me, too, and not to let people bother me with my disabilities, especially my walking. They also say they're proud to call me a friend.

I hope I can be a part of the U of A sports teams in 2003-2004, cheering them, being proud of them and seeing them do their best.

ROBERT SOLOVIEV
U of A Bears Superfan

'All we are saying, is give beans a chance'

Regarding Cora Cunningham's 27 March piece ("I pledge allegiance to a side of beef"), I won't "flood you with facts" about the health benefits of a vegetarian/vegan lifestyle. These facts, you say, are taken from a biased organization hell-bent on converting the world, anyway. "Explore the other side (the Alberta Beef Industry) before you get all fired



up," you admonish us.

Cora, don't you think most Albertans have already explored the other side? How many people do you know who were raised as vegetarians, or even converted as adults? Most of us were raised on hamburgers, not soybeans. Eating beef and trusting in its health benefits are long-standing and deeply entrenched aspects of Alberta society. You'll recall, no doubt, the riled up Albertans because of the single dissenting voice of KD Lang not so long ago.

Why accuse animal activists of being a biased group, while supporting the beef industry's right to promote its products? Please be fair, Cora. Why take offence because we prefer to procure our protein without shedding blood?

All we are saying, is give beans a chance!

LYNDA DOWNIE
Edmonton, Alberta

ETS promotion good, Delton in error

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the Gateway and CJR Radio for sponsoring ETS' recent *Love the Bus* contest.

I gave a lot of feedback from customers about the day-to-day running of the system. Often, though, our customers don't know they can tell us about their positive experiences on transit and what they support or think we are doing right. We thought our customers deserved a chance and wanted to give them a creative opportunity with the contest.

More than 100 entries were received—which was amazing, considering entrants had to provide a submission of 150 words. It was a fantastic boost to staff to know people from all walks of life have such positive associations with their time on transit. It was hard to select winners from the assortment of submissions, ranging from child-

hood, poems, jingles and humorous descriptions of the characters from the community who they meet on the bus.

A recent Gateway article ("ETS promotion DOA at best," 25 February) by Sabreana Delton indicated she was sure the prize for the contest "Had as many stipulations as a useless 90-minute transfer." Had the writer contacted ETS, made a call to the sales agent at the Gateway or gone onto the ETS website where pricing was explicitly explained, she would know the grand prize for this contest was actually twelve ETS adult bus passes (good from April, 2003, to March, 2004) valued at nearly \$700. There were absolutely no stipulations to this prize package.

In addition to this, the grand prize winner received 13 Skybus tickets to an Oilers game in March, also with no stipulations other than coming into our offices and picking tickets up. Not bad, and certainly, no hidden requirements.

Obviously, a contest with a positive focus on transit did not resound with Delton, but it did with over 100 others who took some time to be creative and constructive. Her opinions on Valentine's ETS, and the promotion itself was inaccurate. The contest was successful and well-received, given the number of submissions with pricing exactly as promised.

VEDRANA GUBELJ
ETS Community Relations

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise harmful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

Cunt, cunt, cunt!



KIRSTEN
MOCREIA

In light of the beginning of the end of this year of the Gateway, here's a little quiz: Cock, dick, cunt, penis, rod, Johnson. Which one doesn't have a comfortable home in the pages of the opinion section? I'll give you a hint: it rhymes with blunt. Yes, the Gateway is familiar territory to the long and short of it, all but in these pages no cunt shall tread.

While the Gateway may have no formal directive against using the word "cunt," the prerogative of pussy shows up only in joke issues. In striking hypocritical contrast, regular editions are replete with numerous references to (drum roll please) the penis. Cue organ music. Hell, not just references to—I'm talking *animated*. The comics page is a cockapalooza, regularly offering a bounty of animated wangs to feast our eyes upon.

Now, I am not baring anyone for wallowing in the glory of the phallos—far from it. A university is supposed to be about critical thought and free speech, and if the Gateway chooses to exercise these democratic notions by doodling dildoes, great. The drawings in question don't offend me (though I don't necessarily find them that funny). What I would like to know is why every issue of the Gateway can be a glorified dick-fest, while my dear editor gets uneasy whenever "cunt" is so much as mentioned.

I mean, enough of the fucking

double standard. In our society, the pursuit of sexual pleasure is socially accepted as intrinsic to male existence; it is welcomed, celebrated. It's cool for guys to score, but a girl with multiple partners is still a whore. Men can go to strip clubs together but women still feel embarrassed when they buy a vibrator. And the Gateway can joke about penises but not...ahem.

That said, people are offended by the word cunt, because "cunt" hurts. It's insulting as hell to be called one. Let's not kid ourselves—words are powerful, and this one in particular has a lot more bang than most. But instead of simply not using the word cunt because of its insulting nature, I propose exactly the opposite. I propose that we use it more.

We should scream it from the rooftops, bringing it back, way back, to when "cunt" was good shit. "Cunt" and "bitch" originally referred to priestesses and goddesses. Vagina, on the other hand, literally means, "sheath for a sword." Fuck that—I like the intensity of "cunt." I like the hard sound, the power it conveys. "Vagina" sounds like a name for a car or disease.

Furthermore, I hate it. I mean hate it, when someone can take four little stupid letters and use them to hurt and disenfranchise me. By taking cunt and using it for ourselves, by refusing to hear it as an insult, we are taking the air right out of its nasty little balloon.

So, hey there Patriarchy, I'm going to take your weapon and turn it into a tool. I'm going to use it to smash the double standards to bits. I'm going to use it to help the women who have been victims of verbal abuse. I'm going to throw your insults right back in your face—and then I'm going to bake some cookies.

Dink, dink, dink! Also, dinks



CHRIS
BOUTET

an aching, bleeding, mildly retarded atheist, but man, is it going to rock.

Well, until finals start anyway, but after that, just call me Captain Party! No really—please do. My mom even made a costume for me. Well, it's not so much a costume as it is a pair of mittens, but you'll get the gist when you see me take the concept of partying to the limits of mankind's comprehension and beyond into some kind of hyper-realm of awesome-icity.

Then who knows, maybe I'll even try this "dancing" thing my girlfriend always talks about, but only to the extreme orchestra hits of '90s supergroup 2Unlimited. Because when you're partying this hard, my friends, your feelings of bliss can only truly be expressed by doing the "Running Man" while wearing a neon green jumpsuit that's been rebelliously splattered with paint.

No limit, indeed, 2Unlimited—no limit indeed.

BONUS ARTICLE: I'M GOING TO RUN THIS PAPER INTO THE GROUND

So, a few Sundays ago, I woke up to discover I was going to be the Gateway's next Editor-in-Chief.

It's funny how these things work out, I guess. After all, if I travelled back in time to 1997 when I first started contributing and told myself that I would someday be at the helm of everyone's favourite leaky death-ship, past-Chris certainly would have scoffed and then asked if the Oilers had made it past the second round of the playoffs yet. Sadly, the Oilers have yet to achieve that feat. But in a way, aren't we all in the second round of the playoffs at this point, if by "second round" you mean "position of" and

by "the playoffs" you mean "Editor-in-Chief," and by "we all" you mean "I"? Think about it.

No, when I began my unforeseeably long haul here at the Gateway, I couldn't have cared less about newspapers. But soon I found myself lured in by the irresistibly seductive siren call of the hustle and bustle, the sexiness of filing various things, the swirling montage of long nights punctuated by the soft clicking of keyboards and the doleful crashing of unstable computers. And, of course, the glamour.

All of this is what sucked me in, sure—but what stilled my impotent flailings against the proverbial quicksand that is student journalism was the fact that I realized I loved it. I've made friends that I'll know all my life, gained invaluable experience in the world of journalism, and come to realize how lucky we are to have such an open, diverse, and exciting source for information and frivolity on our campus. All that, and I've only contracted SARS twice in my entire time here—before it was all the time to get SARS, mind you—a claim which few other groups on campus could make with my same laughily, self-satisfied inflection.

If I may conclude by trotting out a tired old pony just one last time before I load it up and drive it out to the glue factory, I truly feel I've made the most of my university years here, so hey, why not come volunteer with the Gateway? We always need a hand in our endeavours to, as Foucault once put it, "rad it up rad-school," and I hope you'll give me this opportunity to pass on to you the same incredible experience that the Gateway has given me over the years.

Well, except the SARS. I probably shouldn't pass that on at all.



DID YOU KNOW THAT PARTICIPATION IN AN OFFENCE AND MISREPRESENTATION OF FACTS ARE OFFENCES UNDER THE CODE?

From July 1, 2002 to February 28, 2003

23 students faced charges of Participation in an Offence
16 students faced charges of Misrepresentation of Facts

How Well Do You Know the Code of Student Behaviour?
Take The Test

1. You let your buddy look over your shoulder during a quiz worth only 10% of your grade. You know your friend could be charged with cheating, but could you be charged too? (Yes/No)
2. You go to the doctor for an exam deferral, but you decide that the note would be better if it included two exams rather than just the one. You add another day onto the note yourself to ensure that you can defer both exams, just in case. Could you be charged under the Code? (Yes/No)
3. You sleep in on the morning of a final exam. You defer the exam, saying that you had a flat tire on the way to school that morning and couldn't get there on time. Your Faculty tells you they need a Statutory Declaration signed in order to grant the deferral. You go ahead and sign one, get the deferral, and everything is fine. Or is it? Could you be charged under the Code? (Yes/No)

Test Answers on Page 10

Test Questions and Answers Provided by Ms Deborah Eerkes of the Student Ombuds Service
Please see the Truth in Education Website at <http://www.ualberta.ca/TE>

WANT TO HELP? Volunteers Needed @ Student Distress Centre



The Girls' Walling, Edward Willard

Please fill out an Application available @ any Info Booth
or 0-30 N lower level SUB

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sdc@su.ualberta.ca www.su.ualberta.ca/sdc
Supportive Listening - Crisis Intervention - Suicide Prevention



Student
Distress
Centre

A very selfish 615 words



RAYMOND
BIESINGER

Thankfully, this goodbye is just multiplied by 10 000 and spread about campus, composed into some 50 full-volume bound editions, kept in the Legislature library, the Provincial archives and perhaps a few private scrap books and collections for our big-headed offspring to spill Pabulum on. Most of that doesn't scare me anymore—it's just the offspring part that has me uneasy. But before sweet Elizabeth fears I'm looking for her to get with child (or fill the rest of camp with children), I should clarify: it's *metaphorical* offspring.

In other words, get ready for a piece half retrospective, coupled with a prospective. I'll give you a self-indulgent piece full of more narrative than argument, and less tact than a burning need to write a 615-word goodbye. I'll omit all the cliché "be cool to your school" moralizing, too. It doesn't send me to write without an argument, I'll admit, and I hope it doesn't show too much.

We can start with the 2 December, 1999, edition of the Gateway, evidence of the evening before, when I first walked into the Gateway and a certain Amazon News Editor with an ulterior motive perched me on a tall white

stool and had me pull a pulque from a news story. I failed to do so, but that didn't stop me from getting a star position in the contributor's list.

This was both cocaine and aphrodisiac, leading to a number of children being born over the next four years, all anonymous: Raymond (News reporter), followed by Raymond (Circulation Manager), followed by Raymond (Entertainment writer and cartoonist). Then came Raymond (raging jerk) who failed spectacularly at an interview to gain the title Entertainment Editor. Looking four feet to my right, at the dust collecting in the folds in the corpse of our overflogged Entertainment Editor, that may have been a stroke of luck, but I called it a failure at the time.

**It doesn't feel right
to write without
an argument,
I'll admit, and
I hope it doesn't show
too much.**

A little later, when a pair of passenger airlines struck two NYC landmarks, 3044 dead Americans made Raymond (editorial cartoonist, columnist), who is me (yes, the one writing this right now), making this "offspring" metaphor difficult to follow. Apparently, I'm both father and son. But to get back on to it, that Raymond, well, he's about to get a new set of low-

ers—they've been an adulterer since last February.

Now, Elizabeth doesn't like cheaters. I know that. But it's a metaphorical new set of partners, actually, and it's the Gateway that can call me a cheater: I have a new set of publications to be randy with, with names like *Saturday Night*, the *Globe and Mail*, *This Magazine*, the *Edmonton Journal* and so on. And I think I won't want one more child: Raymond (illustrator), but I think, actually, he's already been born.

I told you this would be awkward—it's such an amateur move to conclude a piece with "in summary," but I will. In summary: a teen loved a newspaper, some kids were born and then the kids died (some peacefully, some horribly), but the cliché "little pieces" of them "lived on" in the teen's "heart." Then 3044 Americans died, and another offspring resulted, wrote some arguments, never descended into incoherence (however popular it may be) and found a way to draw that he thought was neat.

So, there's the retrospective part. The prospective: now I've started making a career out of drawing, and it turns out it's wonderful. And together, retrospective and prospective make a narrative. The self-indulgence? That's everything before this point. And now, well, the plot twist: you'll not see my mug in the Gateway again. Raymond (Managing Editor) is dead. But don't worry. As you've just read, he had great fun bringing and killing all his offspring but one. So it goes.

Pharmacy banquet was hot shit



JOSH
KIENNER

That's why it was such a refreshing change to sample the sweet nectar in Blue and Gold. Blue and Gold, in a nutshell, is an excuse for the female 94 per cent of the Faculty of Pharmacy to get dressed up, take pictures of each other until their eyes bleed, and do this whilst being more wasted than the time you're spending to read this article.

**Apparently, the only
thing pharmacists
enjoy more than,
of course, counselling
enemas, is sugar—
pounds and
pounds of sugar.
And, dare I forget,
flash photography.**

I'll be the first to say that it sounds shady. It was extremely evident that this faculty was female dominated; the sucrose-laced punch had enough sugar to slay every diabetic west of Regina. Apparently, the only thing pharmacists enjoy more than, of course, coun-

selling enemas, is sugar—pounds and pounds of sugar. And, dare I forget, flash photography. If there were one company making more money off of Blue and Gold than Roger's Sugar, it was Kodak.

But despite the inherent gittiness of the whole affair, I have to say I had a great time. I came out of that place thinking it would be a great thing if people were a little more involved at this university.

Imagine how fun the WOW dance could be if it didn't completely suck. Think about how great it would be if your university experience involved more than studying and sleeping with your professors for good grades. Maybe I'm just getting whimsical as my time at university begins to get slim, but I think it would be great if everyone on campus was a little more into the whole U of A thing, and we could all have a Blue and Gold.

My point is this: we all have four to nine years on this campus; we may as well make the most of it. So next year when you come back here, go out and join some kind of club or have a beer in RATT or check out a Bears or Pandas game. It'll probably be more fun than whaling on your history prof, anyway.

Dave Alexander's TOP TEN

Sings you're watching old time porno

- 10 Starts with a handyman showing up to fix a schoolmarm's icebox.
- 9 Stars "Fertile Myrtle" and "Smokestack Jack."
- 8 While making whoopee, the star screams, "Court me harder!"
- 7 It's got more Britches than 'Nos.
- 6 Someone busts a move called the "Slappy Jalopy."
- 5 The title: *Prince Albert L. in the Can!*
- 4 By the time the actors get past all the buttons, hooks and straps on the brassieres and bloomers, the movie is almost over.
- 3 It features a cumbersome coal-powered vibrator called "the dilly."
- 2 Climaxes consist of ragtime piano and guys in bowties yelling "criminy!"
- 1 Mad amounts of bush.

A scant three weeks ago, I had the honour and privilege of attending the 93rd Annual Blue and Gold pharmacy banquet. And I know exactly what you're thinking: good for you, ya frickin' assmaster.

Three weeks and one day ago, I would have said almost exactly the same thing (only I'd probably have said "prickface" instead of "assmaster"). Why? Because our campus is about as fun as sex without the genitalia. It seems that most people have a general disdain for all things school-related aside from school itself.

Generally, I tend to be one of those people; however, I wish that this shunning of all things non-academic did not exist.

It's difficult to pinpoint the cause of this extra-curricular abhorrence. It could stem from the fact that the University lacks an undeniable people-unifier, like a *Family Matters* club or a cricket team. Or it could also have something to do with the fact that people usually have about as much in common with their classmates as my underwear and clean. Whatever it is, it has resulted in a fairly apathetic campus.

It's a shame, really. Because of movies like *Animal House*, I came to university with visions of parties riddled with togas, casual sex, and feasting. Unfortunately, my first year was less like *Road Trip* and more like *shitty X* 10¹¹. This is most likely because I am guilty, like many people, of being kind of clam, and not really opening up to check out what this place has to offer.

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the last day of classes**

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for student's, staff, alumni and
their guests.**



Reward a good volunteer.

Who deserves recognition for their volunteer contributions to the community and to the University of Alberta?

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
is accepting nominations for its

BOARD OF GOVERNORS' AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Through this award, The Board of Governors will honour individuals or groups who, by their actions, have made exceptional contributions to link the University of Alberta with the municipal, provincial, national and/or international community.

THE NOMINEE MUST, though volunteer service that is above and beyond the requirements of one's employment and which involves an outstanding contribution of personal time and effort for the benefit of others:

- 1) Promote goodwill between the University and the community;
- 2) Create positive awareness of the University within the community by bringing honour to or enhancing the reputation of the University;
- 3) Further the aims of the University with integrity in creating partnerships (social, cultural, economic).

The competition is open to groups and/or individuals in Alberta, Canada, and other countries including non-alumni members of the public, alumni of the University of Alberta, and members of the University academic and support staff. Posthumous nominations may be considered.

Further nomination and eligibility information may be obtained on the internet at <http://www.ualberta.ca/governors/distinction.htm>, or by contacting:

Office of The Board of Governors
3-31 University Hall
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2J9
Phone: 780-492-4951
Fax: 780-492-2726

NOMINATION DEADLINE IS MAY 9, 2003

The Uni's your lover



CORA
CUNNINGHAM

The modern world is dark and gloomy; there's no hope. Every day, our personal freedoms are ripped away from us, and everyone is trying to control our inner thoughts while monitoring our every movement.

What I am speaking of? The end of the school year. And these nasty individuals? Students and professors who say things like, "Move on for four months, Cora." And these days, we're expected to remain "friendly" with the University, even after it kicks us out of its life. Even worse, they expect us to come running back to them after a four-month break-up, when the ungrateful as dumped us out onto the streets of "reality" and terror.

But I've found there is a way to avoid the emotional roller coaster of the so-called summer break: never leave school.

This isn't nearly as unorthodox as it first seems. I mean, in the same way it's considered "immature" not to remain friends with one's ex, you still have to smile and socialize with the University, and the best way to do that is to not even leave in the first place. However, don't assume this plan will leave you financially secure, as the entire reason the University kicked you out in the first place was that it'd already stolen your previously rolling-in-it amounts of cash.

I guess there are a few other problems with that plan, too. The now-

friendly University and you may have a number of secrets you need to keep from each other. Often the summer relationship is too personal and the hatcher of "over-sharing" drops, causing demands for "more space," you can sleep on the couch tonight," and God knows what else. And when the shit hits the fan, most students find it difficult to remain on friendly ground with the University.

However, even if you're not convinced University and you could stay romantic, still go for it, fully realizing that if you're the one kicked to the curb, you're also the one free to move on to other sex post-secondary institutions. And you're always, also, free to not let go and come back to the University and wear your NATI sweater.

Yeah, if it fails, you'll have a new love, eventually. But I warn you: it'll still hurt when you find the University becomes unaware of your feeble existence, when it's found a spanking' new student to take your place. Sure, they're more spontaneous, and sure they're more dedicated, but how could the University so easily forget about you? You were comfortable, and you were failing, but you still loved the University.

"Doesn't love mean anything anymore?" you'll ask. But I still implore you: become really friendly with the Uni, then gently coax information about these "new" students, allowing the Uni to assume you're "OK with it. Really." Then, when they tell you too much (the new students have 8s and 9s, apparently), you can switch into bitter ex-student mode. Scream and yell, make a scene. Embarrass the University beyond repair, ensuring you'll never reunited again. It deserves nothing more than that.

Don't turn your back on the real campus superheroes



ARI
HAGISWAS

neglecting his own university course load. Sadly, the Torch was defeated in a titanic battle with his archnemesis "crisis of conscience," transforming him into a new superhero (see below).

Far stranger are the incredible powers of *Stasis*. By warping the fabric of time itself, this student is capable, with her mere presence, of bringing normally brisk-moving elevators to an imperceptible snail's pace, inconveniencing hundreds of fellow students at rush times. Though associated with frayed nerves and failed deodorant all across campus, she is most frequently sighted near the office tower elevators of SUB.

Spiderman was the top-grossing movie of 2002, and it seems Hollywood has concluded that so many people went to see the movie because it featured flashy superheroes and supervillains. Frankly, I thought the high point of the film was Randy "The Macho Man" Savage in the minor role of Bonesaw, but now the summer of 2003 is going to feature more big superhero movies—such as *X-Men 2* and *The Incredible Hulk*—than ever before.

But before you see these blockbusters, you should take the time to survey the local talent here at the U of A—I mean, our very own campus superheroes and superheroines. These men and women of extraordinary abilities live and work among the rest of us mere mortals while keeping a remarkably low profile. After weeks of investigation, I am ready to give you an exclusive look at just some of our U of A superheroes. Naturally, to protect their identities I have agreed to not publish their real names.

First on our list is the *Human Torch*. Disguised as an ordinary arts student, this social activist blazes against all the evils of humanity with the heat of a thousand blast furnaces. Decrying injustices as large as globalization and as small as illegal emu ranching in Africa, the *Human Torch* battles valiantly for the cause while completely

ble of single-handedly boosting a Telus quarterly earnings report from debt to profit status.

This brings us to *Strikeout*. Once a math major and keen baseball fan, he was caught in a bizarre math lab accident involving X-rays and a probability experiment. Now, when asking a girl out for a date, mysterious forces not yet understood by science forever condemn him to the 100 per cent probability that she already has a boyfriend. A pillar of the campus community, *Strikeout*'s unbroken record of failure is an inspiration to any clueless single up at bat. It shows that even when an average guy has no balls and two strikes against him, dumb luck still might give him a chance to move into scoring position.

The *Leopard* actually has no cat-like characteristics, except for the proverbial ability to change one's spots. Formally the *Human Torch*, the *Leopard* has left his arts degree for law school, and has buried his activist days in a raging orgy of selling out to *The Man*. Desperate to own a house with a four-car garage in Suburbia and to live the good life for once, this dynamo defeats his rivals by first stunning them with a blinding beam of pure hypocrisy.

Certainly, there are more super-powered beings on campus, but if you should choose to look for your own U of A superheroes, don't be fooled by hoaxes. Did you hear the rumours about a student who studied hard in all his classes, held down a job, spent enough time with his girlfriend and still received eight hours of sleep every day? Forget it! Even superpowers have their limit.

But before you see these blockbusters, you should take the time to survey the local talent here at the U of A—I mean, our very own campus superheroes and superheroines.

Glorious Gal, like many people, is blessed with vocal cords and the mental faculties necessary to articulate speech. With superhuman gratitude, she feels her life is so unbelievably joyous and exciting she must share it with everyone 24 hours a day over her cellphone. Oblivious to the grimaces and scowls of people who clearly can't grasp how amazing her existence is, *Glorious Gal*'s cellphone traffic is capa-



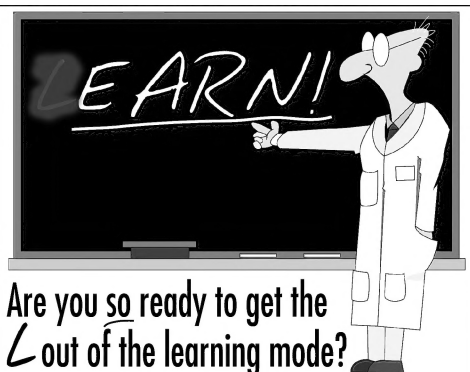
HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR?

Test Answers

- YES** – Helping someone to cheat is frowned upon and is definitely a no-no under the Code of Student Behaviour. You could be charged with Participation in an Offence and face sanctions such as a 1FI (Failure due to Inappropriate Academic Behaviour) and a suspension.
- YES** – Altering a medical note falls under the category of Misrepresentation of Facts and carries sanctions just as strict as the other Inappropriate Academic Behaviour Charges.
- YES** – This is another case of Misrepresentation of Facts. In fact, this is a double whammy. If you deferred the exam by signing a Statutory Declaration, you have not violated only the Code of Student Behaviour, but also the Canadian Criminal Code. The Statutory Declaration is a legally binding document, and lying on one could amount to a criminal charge of fraud, along with a charge under the Code of Student Behaviour, with a possible 1FI in the course and a suspension.

To Learn More About the Code of Student Behaviour Go To:
<http://www.ualberta.ca/~unisecc/appeals.htm>

For further information or assistance you can contact the Student OmbudService at 492-4689 or log on to
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/ombuds>
Provided by the GFC Campus Law Review Committee



Are you so ready to get the L out of the learning mode?

So, you're close to earning your degree, and life's about to hand you a toss-up question: Do you continue with your formal *learning*, or get the "L" out and try *earning* a living doing who knows what? Well, if you are a student who excelled in researching and writing—a person who would rise happily every morning to the challenge of helping an organization communicate more effectively with its various audiences—then there's an option you may want to consider: a career in public relations. You can be ready for it in just 10 months.

The public relations career diploma program at Grant MacEwan College is geared to the university student. We use 30 credits from your university learning, apply them to the two-year diploma requirement, and then we put you on a 10-month fast track to becoming a fully functional, entry-level public relations practitioner. No electives. No nurturing as if you were just out of high school. It's a challenge for the best of university students, and it's a challenge that has led 95% of graduates to full-time employment in less than a year.

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SPORTS

sports@gateway.alberta.ca • Thursday, 3 April, 2003

Slepica calls it quits

BRENDAN PROCE
Sports Editor

After a lone year as head coach of the Bears and Pandas track and field and cross-country teams, Jim Slepica has moved on.

His resignation has been accepted by Kim Gordon, Director of Athletics, and was effective Tuesday, 2 April.

"He left for personal reasons," said a tight-lipped Gordon. "The program is still strong though, and is moving forward." There is no



Former head coach Jim Slepica

FILE PHOTO: KATRYN TWIDDE
Among Slepica's reasons for leaving was his "inability to create a functional and cohesive group."

word as Slepica's replacement yet.

He was hired in spring of 2002 after eleven-year head coaching veteran Marek Glowacki retired 1 July, 2002 at 62 years of age, to spend more time with his family and have more time to focus on personal pursuits.

Slepica's reasons for parting, however, are different from his predecessor's.

In a letter addressed to the "UA Track Family," Slepica writes: "The reasons for my departure are many. Among them is my apparent inability to create a functional and cohesive group that is united in cause and effort."

The ex-coach led the Pandas and Bears track and field squads to eighth and ninth-place finishes respectively. On the cross-country end, he helped guide the Bears to a bronze medal, one of seven earned by University varsity teams this year. The Pandas cross-country regiment didn't finish in the top ten.

Slepica continued: "The one area I do want to address is this, which has become all too apparent to me. There is a definite movement from 'within' to destroy the sport. ... Things that are

killing the sport: persistent petty rumours and innuendo, talking behind people's backs, hidden agendas, people thinking they can make money from the sport."

Slepica was not available for comment at press time.

FOOTBALLERS BRING ON DRAUDSEN

Former Edmonton Wildcats head coach Darryl Draudsen was hired as an assistant coach for the Bears football team on 1 April.

Draudsen, who played for the Bears as a defensive back and linebacker from 1987 through 1991, was hired as a defensive backs coach by the Wildcats in 1992. In 1996, he was promoted to head coach and defensive coordinator, a position he held for two years. In 1998 and 1999, he returned to solely being a defensive coordinator, and took on the head coaching position in 2000 and 2001.

"Darryl is well respected within the football community in the province of Alberta, and provides us with another coaching presence on our staff," said Bears head coach Jerry Friesen.

Become a sportscaster—in four years or less

ALAN COOMBS
The Brock Press

ST CATHARINES, Ontario (CUP) — So you think you know sports, eh? You probably even think you have what it takes to be a professional in the sports field. Well, unless you're an athletic standout (if you are reading an article on how to become a professional in four years, you probably don't fit into this category), you should maybe focus on a different road into professional sports.

I talked with The Sports Network's (TSN) James Duthie to see what's involved in becoming a sports broadcaster. Let us all sit in awe of the guru from Sportscentre and host of NHL on TSN.

Despite a few sacrifices, being a pro seems like a dream job for any sports fan. Follow these simple steps to realize your dream job and a crap load of money...well, a dream job at least.

CHOOSE YOUR FIELD

If you want to be involved in sports, you're going to have to find a platform to give yourself a voice. Be it television or written press, you need as much training as possible to get in. If you choose to use Duthie as an example, changing your major over to journalism might be in your best interests.

"I studied journalism at Carleton. After I graduated, I did the news at CJOH, the CTV affiliate in Ottawa, then moved into sports. I always knew I wanted to cover sports."

Any field you enter—written, spoken or otherwise—should give you a good voice to prove your knowledge in sports.

GATHER YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Despite what the pros on TV and in the paper would have you believe, they don't know every-

thing off the top of their head. They have to research the games they cover.

The information you are gathering will depend greatly on what kind of professional you want to be. For example, Duthie points out that when he was hosting Sportscentre, he needed to know fewer specifics and more general information.

"[At Sportscentre] you need to know about every single sport. You need to know how to pronounce names properly and everything. As a host, I don't necessarily need to know as much as Bob McKenzie knows, but I need to know what is going on."

Duthie admits to using no more sources than the average sports fan. He uses websites, Sportscentre, and watches as much hockey as possible. He has the Center Ice Package, a series of TV channels devoted entirely to hockey games, so he can see as many games as possible.

ORGANIZING YOUR INFORMATION

So you have your degree, which got you a job. Now you also have the notes and everything to demonstrate your world of knowledge to the public. What do you do next?

Well, if you're in TV land, you need to start organizing your data so you can make sense of it, and also start organizing with the rest of the people on your show.

"At about 11am, I have a conference call with Bob [McKenzie], Dave [Hodge] and my producer to go over how we are going to present everything. TV is not cut and dried; there are many different ways of producing a good show. Then I spend a few hours at the office going over my notes or making new notes."

Duthie also points out that he doesn't use a script. No script means more improvisation, so when you organize the show, make sure to leave time to be zany and offbeat.

IGNORE THE VOICES IN YOUR HEAD

Part of the difficulty, especially on TV, is covering up mayhem. If you're writing, it is your job to write a non-biased piece, even if you are mad with the world. If you're on TV, you need to look calm even when your producer is frantically yelling at you in your earpiece. It is your job to pretend there is nothing wrong.

"It is one of the challenges of the business," Duthie admits. "It's hard to talk while somebody else is talking to you. Once you get used to it, it's alright."

FUN WILL BECOME WORK/DEAL WITH IT

The only real downfall is that, eventually, your recreation time does become work. On the day I was talking to Duthie, a freak snowfall crashed down on Colorado that cancelled the game TSN was supposed to cover. As a result, TSN had to cover a different game. The fall from grace led them to cover the Buffalo Sabres. Duthie had to start reading Buffalo newspapers to get the story on the Sabres. Nobody wants to read a Buffalo paper—never mind anything about the Sabres.

MAKE GOOD FRIENDS WITH THOSE WHO KNOW

Seeing as you don't really have any means of information different from other people, it is important that you make friends with players and analysts who actually know what is going on. Duthie says his conversations with McKenzie and Hodge are "the only information [he has] outside of the average sports fan."

McKenzie and Hodge are two really good sources that can provide a plethora of information. Incidentally, Duthie is convinced that Hodge can drink Ron McLean (Hodge's CBC counterpart) under the table. I'm working on getting this one up. Duthie says Hodge is a real "gamer."

Canucks, Leafs hogging network time

JOEL CHURY



Ramblings from Moose Lodge

If watching Sportsnet news has taught me anything, it is their ability to say public opinion of Canadian hockey teams. Just when it was almost certain that everyone in Canada bled Maple Leaf blue and white, the good people at Sportsnet pointed out that this wasn't entirely the case.

After years of early Hockey Night in Canada games devoted almost entirely to the Leafs, and Coaches Corners that don't go much further than conversations about Tie (Dom) and "Dougie" (Gilmour), all of the focus that was once given to the Leafs is starting to sway towards Vancouver.

This may be difficult for fans in Edmonton, whose Oilers may soon suit up against the mighty Canucks. Sure, I only get to catch Sportsnet late at night when it's the Sportnet Pacific (Vancouver) broadcast, but unbiased journalism is still achievable right?

It's not like anyone really cares about the Oilers' late-game surges to pull ties away from Chicago and St. Louis; what we really want to see is who sat out of the Canucks' practice.

If the network is going to air regional coverage from Vancouver, at least edit the show to put Oilers news first. Heck, edit it so that coverage of teams that actually played that night is shown at the top of the show.

I know the examples given for Vancouver from the Toronto media in the past (and present) aren't the best in unbiased national sports coverage. But Sportsnet is a network built on regional diversity, and they wouldn't let the coverage editorialize who we should be rooting for, would they? Sure, Mr. Cherry probably goes to bed after the first game is over, but no one from Vancouver should keep that kind of close-mindedness, should they?

If Martine Gailor from the Score continues to refer to the Leafs as "we" and "us," it becomes easy to forget that the Score promotes itself as "Canada's source for round-the-clock sports coverage." Now, thanks to this biased promotion, Vancouver sports personality Jim Hughson can refer to the "Nucks as the "Big Machine" as they cruise into the offensive zone, and Don Taylor can confidently grin and share joy in a Canucks win over the Blue Jackets.

So there are two cultural epicentres fighting for a highly biased view over their collective minions. What is a poor student sports fan living in Edmonton to do?

It is obvious that these so-called sports networks want to forget about the existence of the "other" hockey teams. Montreal and Calgary are already looking tee times, but what does the future for the Oilers or Senators hold? As these networks seem to be forgetting, each of these teams are playoff bound. Heck, the Oil have been the most exciting team in hockey since the trade deadline, but this seems to be largely ignored. The major coverage is going to the Flyers/Leafs battle, and to Canucks/Random-team-trampled-in-a-four-game-sweep series.

It's disturbing to have to watch A-Channel for my sports news, but if I really want to know what is going on, I might have to. Check that—"we" might have to.

Sigh...if only sports were the most important news worth focusing on right now.

The year that was...

It's a quasi tradition in the student press for outgoing editors to write entirely self-indulgent parting articles, feigning the belief that more than six readers out there in the Real World will indulge their finality, and maybe shed an invisible, sympathetic thought for them.

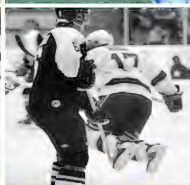
Rather than bore you to crutches though, I thought this photo spread would be the best way to capture the year in sports, and, for my own interests, the year that was, on my end.

The flavour of sports is, as I think these images tell, varied and unpredictable. From the shot of Bears hockey captain Blair St Martin dishing his skate into an opponent, to the quick flash of hurdles competition, this page is a fitting ode to what one can see, and what rolls out, in the universe of

varsity athletics.

It's been fun, and a little weird. See ya 'round.

Brendan Procé
Sports Editor, 2002-2003



PHOTOS (LEFT TO RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM): CHOI, AMY BONG, KATH THREDS, C. HONG, MATT FREHNER, PATRICK FINLEY (X), JAKE EDENLOFF, C. HONG, KEVIN LUI

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Grapes sour on Canada

Canadian icon Don Cherry continues to spout off about Iraq and "left-wing commie" media, whether Canadians are listening or not



MATTHEW BLACK

Sports
Commentary

It appears Canada's best agitator is at it again. Following his controversial remarks on its Coach's Corner segment on the 22 March edition of *Hockey Night in Canada*, Don Cherry continued his rant on the Jim Rome radio show heard locally on the Team 1260 AM.

On the Rome show, Cherry blasted the government-owned CBC, calling all Canadian media "left-wing commies." Apparently, Cherry has never read the *Republican*, or *National Post*. Cherry concluded by taking a borderline racist shot at the Montrealsers who booed the "Star Spangled Banner" a few weeks back, as well as the antiwar protesters, calling the latter a bunch of "kooks."

In the words of Jim Rome: "Don freakin' Cherry."

That's exactly what all Canadians should've been saying following Rogers' latest escapade.

Don't get me wrong. I'm sure that, between plugging Molson Canadian, pestering Ron MacLean, and telling the world what a "great guy" Doug Gilmour is, Cherry thoroughly analyzes international foreign policy.

This isn't to say that he didn't, but rather that the public shouldn't really give a rat's ass what a bombastic hockey com-

mentator has to say about anything but hockey.

Cherry should stick to analyzing the left-wing look and neutral zone trap and producing his *Rock 'Em Sock 'Em* movies rather than foraying into the world of international relations.

Besides, he's been at this a long time now, and his rants come off as less the voice of Canada and more as the rantings of the grumpy old guy you see on street corners from time to time.

I'm sure that between plugging Molson Canadian, pestering Ron MacLean, and telling the world what a "great guy" Doug Gilmour is, Cherry thoroughly analyzes international foreign policy.

If we always listened to Cherry, there'd be no visitors or Europeans in the NHL, and Kingston, Ontario would get a new expansion team.

Of course, Cherry had every right to say what he did, but, frankly, why should anyone care what a sports personality thinks of the war on Iraq? Sadly, the Cherry incident seems to be merely the tip of the iceberg in a disturbing trend of sports stars using their celebrity status to promote political positions.

Tennis players, such as Venus

Williams and Jennifer Capriati, requested patriotic songs be played prior to their matches. Fellow American tennis player Andy Roddick made the Ronald Reagan-esque error of requesting the Bruce Springsteen classic "Born in the USA" be played before one of his matches. Too bad he didn't bother to listen to the lyrics, which are blatantly anti-American. You get an "E" for effort, Andy.

The point is that sports stars and personalities shouldn't be the ones we turn to for political insight. Moreover, sports personalities should realize that if we want political views, we turn on CBC Newsweek or CNN, not *Wimbledon* or *Hockey Night in Canada*.

Local radio personality Bryn Griffiths has called sports "the toy department of the world" and surely this assessment isn't far from the truth. Sports are where society turns for entertainment and escapism and thus should be as free as possible from the problems the world faces on a day-to-day basis.

Should Cherry be fired for his remarks? Of course not. As dumb as it sounds, making ludicrous rants on syndicated radio shows is at least partially what our right to free speech is all about. Do athletes have the right to have and express political views? Sure they do. But are they views that should garner such attention? No, because as Roddick and Cherry have shown, ignorance and celebrity are often synonymous.

We, as at least quasi-educated citizens, should come to the conclusion that sports are not the optimal forum for politics. For entertainment, turn to TSN; for politics, turn to CNN.

Agree or not, Gretzky's words affect fans

After he publicly backed the US on the war in Iraq, someone decided it'd be a good idea to deface his statue outside of Skyreach Centre



MATT ROBERTSON

Sports
Commentary

Wayne Gretzky, hockey legend and humanitarian, became the topic of criticism this past week for comments he made regarding George W. Bush and the US-led war on Iraq. Reporters asked Gretzky what he thought of the President's decision to go to war. "If the President decides to go to war, he must know more than we know, or we hear about," he said.

"He must have good reason to go and we have to back that." The Great One also praised Bush for being a great leader. The bulk of the interview, however, focused on Gretzky's personal stake in the war.

He has a cousin, Colan Kenny Hooper, who is participating in the controversial conflict. Accordingly, his comments were more reflective of his own family concerns than of any deep-seeded desire for the war itself.

He freely admitted that his opinion should not be taken too seriously. "We shouldn't be worried about what entertainers or athletes

or Wayne Gretzky or Don Cherry says. It's immaterial." Sorry Gretz, but it appears your opinion does mean something, like it or not.

Are we supposed to get together and petition the NHL to take away the Stanley Cups Gretzky helped Edmonton win because he thinks President Bush is a swell guy?

Apparently, someone with a clear opinion on the war issue, and an equally evident lack of creative energy, decided Gretzky's comments warranted some kind of political response. Their brilliant idea was to mount a sign reading "US Lackey" on the famed Wayne Gretzky statue outside Skyreach Centre.

I feel it's my duty, both as a hockey fan and citizen, to question the intelligence and perspective of the perpetrator(s) of this crime.

Wayne Gretzky put this city on the map by playing great hockey, not by being a political figure. As

much as some want to minimize the role of sports and sports figures, nobody living in this town can say Wayne Gretzky did anything to harm Edmonton's status. The real lesson of this incident is that, for as many intelligent people as there are opposing this war, there are some pretty big losers too.

What exactly is the point of putting a sign on the Gretzky statue anyway? Was this pseudo-political protest going to make everyone forget that Gretz has helped raise millions for the afflicted and the disadvantaged? Are we supposed to get together and petition the NHL to take away the Stanley Cups Gretzky helped Edmonton win because he thinks President Bush is a swell guy?

I think I know exactly why the sign was put up; it's so some loser could see something they were personally responsible for on some sports show for twelve seconds of anonymous fame.

Now, I can't help but wonder: how many anti-war protesters are simply in it for some morsel of media attention? My hope is that most people who speak their minds do so with conviction, and not out of some pathetic desire to make it on a highlight reel. Incidents like this one do nothing, however, to convince me of that.

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Former Taliban Captive Speaks Out Against War On Iraq

WORDS SOBIA VIRK
MONTREAL CUP—THE LINK

"THERE ARE A LOT OF GUTLESS, SPINELESS JOURNALISTS who are willing to be spoon-fed by the White House."

These are the words of Yvonne Ridley, the tenacious British reporter who is a living antithesis of the journalists she describes. Crossing into eastern Afghanistan in a burka, without a visa or identification, Ridley was arrested and imprisoned by the Taliban on 28 September 2001.

She managed to keep a secret diary on a soap wrapper and the inside of a toothpaste box. Ridley went on a hunger strike, as "it was the only way [she] could exercise [her] rights" and vehemently resisted defeat.

"I was horrible to [the Taliban]; I was obnoxious, I spat at them, I swore at them," she said. The 43-year-old reporter remained captive for ten days. She compared her treatment by the Taliban to that of the 600 men held by the US in violation of the Geneva Convention in Guantánamo Bay. But she feels she was the lucky one.

"It was absolutely terrifying, largely through my own imagination, because I just thought, 'I've been caught by the most evil, brutal regime in the world and they hate women, and I am not going to see the sunset.' As it turned out, they treated me with courtesy and respect, which is not what Britain and America wanted to hear," said Ridley, chief reporter for the *Daily Express*, a British newspaper.

YVONNE RIDLEY REVEALS TALIBAN



She agreed to educate herself on Islam if released, and subsequently kept her promise. Ridley's stance on Islam has since evolved, however. She noted her opinions did not directly change through the Taliban, but through reading the Qur'an.

"The Qur'an makes it clear that women are equal [to men] in spirituality, worth and education," she said. "The women's movement could have very well begun in the pages of the Qur'an 1400 years ago, instead of in the '60s when we were burning our bras."

FUTILITY OF WAR

With 25 years of journalistic experience and having covered several conflicts around the world, Ridley is knowledgeable, well-travelled, and optimistic. As if war will be averted, she addressed both the media and a 500-strong audience at Université de Montréal during her tour in Montréal.

"15 February is the start, it's certainly not the finish," she said of the massive global resistance to war on Iraq.

A double standard exists, Ridley told reporters a day prior to her public lecture at U de M. She presented a list of the 16 UN resolutions violated by Iraq and compared it to the three-page list of 72 resolutions violated by Israel. She added that, despite Israel possessing weapons of mass destruction and nuclear capabilities, and sporting a human rights record far more shocking than that of Iraq, Israel is not targeted by UN sanctions or America's war.

Ridley was in a Kabul prison when more than 50 cruise missiles bombarded the capital. Recalling how terrifying the experience was, she maintained an anti-war stance. "You can't negotiate with cruise missiles, they can't distinguish between civilian and military

targets," she said. Kabul, she says, made her realize "the whole futility of war."

The journalist dismissed the notion that Iraqis themselves welcome a US-led invasion: "How can you liberate an Iraqi that has been blown apart?" she asked. The only Iraqis who want war are the "ones with pockets stuffed with CIA dollars." This war is not meant to be a clean war. "Strategic military targets are being moved into civilian areas. Iraqi civilians are going to pay the blood price."

PROPOSING SOLUTIONS

There are two threats in the world today, said Ridley: Bush and Blair. A humane solution to the situation in Iraq, says Ridley, would be to cease UN sanctions, which have strengthened Saddam Hussein and weakened the Iraqi people. In addition, weapons inspections should continue and the devastated infrastructure must be rebuilt. Ridley firmly opposed outside attempts to enforce regime changes that are not in the best interest of the people.

Palestine and the war on Iraq are "inextricably linked," said Ridley. "If it weren't for the heroic resistance of the Palestinians, Iraq would've been invaded a long time ago." This war, said Ridley, is about oil resources. It is also "about changing the political landscape of the Middle East," which bears far-reaching implications for Palestinians. Ridley managed to enter Jinan two days after a massacre, and witnessed the aftermath.

"Palestinian people are terrified that they are going to be ethnically cleansed from the West Bank and Gaza." It's not rocket science, the occupation fuels terrorist acts and genuine peace in the region would "starve terrorists," said Ridley. "Most desperate acts have their roots in some justifiable grievance," she added.

UNDER FIRE FOR HER VIEWS

Ridley has published her extraordinary story in a new book, *In the Hands of the Taliban*. She faced overwhelming criticism upon her return to Britain. Accused of suffering from Stockholm syndrome, being reckless and, as a single mother, inconsiderate of her daughter, much of the insult-hurling came from female colleagues. Ridley herself does not regret her actions.

REFUSES TO BE INTIMIDATED BY THE OR THE WHITE HOUSE

"Our human rights are being slowly eroded, liberty is being slowly carpet-bombed, because of this war on terrorism," she said, noting that a new superpower is emerging, that of the global anti-war movement.

She found, to her horror, that she had been spied upon by the CIA, which assembled a dossier containing stolen documents and fabricated connections trying to implicate her as a MI6 agent of Britain married to a Mossad agent. The CIA transferred the dossier to the Taliban while she was in captivity. Ridley believes the

intelligence agency was anticipating that she would be convicted for espionage and executed, thereby bolstering support for the US-led war, and clamping the growing anti-war movement. The experience shook, but has not deterred, the determined journalist.

"I'm damned if I'm going to be intimidated by anyone," said Ridley.

**"OUR HUMAN RIGHTS ARE BEING
SLOWLY ERODED, LIBERTY IS BEING
SLOWLY CARPET-BOMBED, BECAUSE OF
THIS WAR ON TERRORISM,"**

—Yvonne Ridley



Frank Black 'enjoys what he's got'

Frank Black and the Catholics

with Tangiers and David Lowery
Red's
Saturday, 5 April

SWEETCHEYANNE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Frank Black has never been to Edmonton before, but his dirty rock 'n' roll hands are all over this prairie city.

Black, prior to his incarnation with the Catholics, was in a tiny indie-rock band known as the Pixies. The Pixies changed music in a way akin to the force of the Velvet Underground in the 1960s. While no one ever really bought their records, those who did went on to create music themselves. So, what do you call this man who revolutionized your record collection, born as Charles Thompson?

"Call me Frank," he says.

With music being brushed aside in favour of more topical world problems, the conversation very quickly turns to the war in Iraq. Black insists it does not affect him at all, but that it affects the audience to the extent that they could simplify the world to such ignorant extremes as to blame an American for the policy decisions of George W. Bush. As for global relations, Black holds that sovereignty is an ever-evolving notion, changing

with or without war or terrorism.

Discussing music, Black is a self-proclaimed member of the active listener category: it is this intimate and involved connection to sounds that instigated Black's career. He mentions the Beatles as part of his introduction to the obsessive possibilities of pop. Currently, it is a move back to 1950s jazz that moves him—the likes of Chet Baker and John Coltrane.

"I had so many problems, and then I got me a Walkman," says Black in "I Heard Ramona Sing." The song is the true story of portable music with headphones saving one's life.

Black believes that the kids who profess lifesaving sentiments to him, post-show, are really just trying to say that sometimes music is solace, that even if you've got nothing, music is a lot—something to consume over and over again, sweeter every time, and never boring. This may be why Black does not feel the need to keep around records if he isn't listening to them. The albums that could just sit around, collecting dust, are traded in for more music. Black does not hoard for the sake of hoarding, not guitars or even his own Pixies records. The lesson: be passionate about, and enjoy, what you've got.

Black will be performing this weekend at the world's largest mall when he visits us all for the first time in Edmonton, and for Black, "That sounds pretty good."



MUSIC IS SOLACE Frank Black comes to Edmonton for the first time this weekend.

Toronto brought out the angst in Tangiers

Tangiers

with Frank Black and the Catholics,
and David Lowery
Red's
Saturday, 5 April

MICHAEL FOWLE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's no secret that where you live becomes as much a part of your memory as your experience. That's why cities spawn scenes, where like-minded bands struggle collectively to expose their city for what it is. Copious examples come to mind: the endless rains of Seattle spawning the overcast grunge scene, the sweet summers of LA generating both energy-fueled power punk and hair-metal, and New York's hustling-forward fashionably sexy, but soulful rock. Same holds for all four of the members of Tangiers, who grew up in downtown Toronto.

"Media has become mechanical, crunched and cartoonish, like a video game. It needs to wake up to human quality."

JOSH REICHMANN,
TANGIERS' GUITARIST



RAGIN' TORONTONIANS Tangiers attribute any of their angst to the bitter, rough streets of Toronto.

"If Toronto has a scene, we're a part of it. Growing up in Toronto made our music more angry and less angry. Different things bother you here, like the traffic, noise, money or lack of it. Growing up is less reflective and more kinetic," explains guitarist Josh Reichmann.

Tangiers' new album *Hot New Spirits* reflects Toronto like a mirror. It's the sound of an accelerated, good-time garage band unleashing three-minute barages of sexy yet soulful songs. With three principle songwriters, respectful diplomacy was essential to avoiding conflict; when one of the three would bring in a skeleton, they collectively gave it life.

So does it sound Torontonian? Indeed it does.

Critics are going as far as calling it the essential Toronto band, a supercharged version of "Keith Richards and Richard Hell fronting a tighter Buzzcocks." But the band is hesitant of such hype.

"[Critics] are too quick to sum up a band. They end up oversimplifying the facts," notes Reichmann. "[Hype] leaves you feeling up and down. The focus makes you paranoid, but overall you want people to take notice and talk about you."

Their skepticism of the media doesn't end with music critics. When discussing the media related to the American-Iraq crisis, Reichmann requested about ten hours of time, but then

quickly summed up his fear of the media as suffering from a capture-the-flag mentality.

"Media has become mechanical, crunched and cartoonish, like a video game. It needs to wake up to human quality," he says.

If there were a motto for the band, "waking up to human quality" would be it. Formed from the ashes of two hardcore Toronto bands, the Deadly Snakes and the Killer Elite, Tangiers rocks on a non-political soapbox, preaching the values of partying, making love and celebrating life while bypassing deeply poetic and political statements.

Truth is, Reichmann admits, the band never tires of big romantic bands like the Stones

and the Clash, but it's a funny comparison when none of them even owns a Buzzcocks record. Nevertheless, with the desire to see more "authentic" older-style rock on the rise, Tangiers' timing couldn't be more perfect.

However, Tangiers wouldn't pass up the chance to show western Canadian fans what their music is all about. Reichmann and his mates are equally excited at the "therapeutic chance to escape the Toronto headspace—a break from their day jobs, girlfriends and paying bills."

No matter how hard they try, though, it will be more like a vacation from home than an escape. Toronto is tattooed all over them and their music.

Kazzer has his hands in everything

Kazzer

with *Fifth Season*, *Retrograde*,
and *Star Collector*
PowerPlant
Saturday, 5 April

JAMES JOHNSON
Arts & Entertainment Writer

By now, everybody's had a taste of rap metal. However, despite its popularity in the '90s, it's still harshly criticized as being a venue for white boys to approach the rap genre from a metal background, while not actually have to sing. Furthermore, the genre forsakes classic rap signatures, embracing ultra-aggressive, testosterone-heavy theatricality, and juvenile lyrical concepts.

"The most political I get is how I can't afford school books, and the problems with our amateur athletes being underfunded."

KAZZER,
HIP HOP ARTIST

Kazzer is a new breed of artist who embodies this genre. That is to say, he comes from a hip hop background, and only now incorporates live rock musicians into his music. Upon first listen to his music, though, you won't find any of the "bling bling" that characterizes most modern rap; more evident influences harken back to the days of party rap and break-

dancing, citing influences such as A Tribe Called Quest and KRS-One. But unlike his influences, Kazzer says he stays away from the political commentary.

"In a few songs, I make statements on the album, but I'm not breaking any political ground," he says. "The most political I get is how I can't afford school books, and the problems with our amateur athletes being underfunded."

Kazzer sticks to what he knows, while crafting songs that people can break to. His interest in breakdancing comes from his introduction to hip hop. It then snowballed into the world of freestyling and rapping, which didn't quite take off until just recently. In the meantime, he occupied himself with judo. His skill in breakdancing lent itself to the sport, and took him all the way to the Canadian Judo Team in the 2000 Olympics. However, it was then that he got his big break from Epic Records, and had to give up his chance for Olympic stardom.

Although his dream has been put on hold, he doesn't hesitate to show off his athletic skills, whether in his latest video "Pedal To The Metal," or at a live show.

Kazzer's star is rising much further now than it would have for his Olympic career. His music is featured in video games and TV shows, bringing new meaning to his album title *For Broke*. Whereas many of his contemporaries view licensing as a detractor from their content, Kazzer views it more as an opportunity.

"I think that's great exposure, especially with everyone stealing songs off the Internet anyways. It's really opened



THE STUNTING HIP HOP ARTIST Kazzer tries not to be political; he sings what he knows.

S. STICKLER

up the bounds. It's representation of the artist, and it's totally okay."

But exposure won't just stop with the music. Kazzer is also aiming for the film industry. However, pretentious it may be to gun for Hollywood stardom right from the get-go, Kazzer

offers something that most musicians with stars in their eyes don't: the ability to do his own stunts.

Management is putting a lot of faith in Kazzer, pushing his name into all forms of media. However, he is still pigeon-holed in a genre defined

by teenage angst and over-aggression. Although his first single is enjoying decent success, it remains to be seen whether the public will see past the hype, and see Kazzer as an artist who embodies the more entertaining aspects of the genre.

What are you doing this Spring & Summer?

**Looking for adventure...
personal development...
a new perspective?**

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Farrell stays on the line in Phone Booth

Phone Booth

Directed by Joel Schumacher
Starring Colin Farrell, Forest Whitaker,
Katie Holmes, and Kiefer Sutherland
Opens Friday, 4 April

ADAM ROZENHART
Entertainment Editor

For a guy who doesn't wear blue tights and a cape, Colin Farrell sure spends a lot of time in a phone booth.

And while the concept behind Joel Schumacher's latest film, *Phone Booth*, may seem ludicrously mundane, let me assure you it isn't. It's true that Colin Farrell doesn't use his phone booth time to change into a costume and cape, but he uses it to do everything else: swear, cry, bleed, scream; he even uses it to place and receive phone calls, amazingly.

Farrell plays Stu Shepard, a cutthroat publicist who routinely lies, connives, cheats, and curses. Everyday, he conducts his business from a cellphone on the streets of New York, and everyday he uses the same phone booth to call Pam (Katie Holmes), a young actress whom Shepard is trying to get with, unbeknownst to his wife, Kelly (Radha Mitchell). As a result of his daily pattern, Shepard has become a target; what first seemed like a prank call turns into an all-out hostage situation when Farrell answers the ringing phone. While prostitutes and their pimp bang on the phone booth door, demanding that Shepard exit so others can use the phone, the caller shoots the pimp in the back with a silenced sniper rifle. That's when all



YOUR CALL IS IMPORTANT TO US Colin Farrell is held hostage in *Phone Booth*.

hell breaks loose. The following 80 or so minutes involve a variety of psychological games the caller plays with Shepard who is trapped in the phone booth under pain of death.

A film that takes place almost entirely within the confines of a phone booth is, some would say, a very, very bad idea. Fortunately, Joel Schumacher was smart enough to cast the talented Colin Farrell, who nails the role of greedy, opportunistic publicist. Farrell is able to go from pushy publicist to repentant sinner at the hands of his captor. While the police are trying to figure out what on earth is going on with the lunatic in the phone booth, Shepard tries to outwit the Caller (as he is billed in the credits) in a battle of wits and circular logic. The Caller (Kiefer

Sutherland), meanwhile, is creepy to a well, creepy degree. It seems Kiefer has inherited the spooky gene from his father, Donald.

The tension that builds throughout the movie is enough to make you shift in your seat, and when you're uncertain as to whether things could possibly get any worse, they do. That isn't to say, however, that *Phone Booth* isn't without its groaners. Multiple puns on hanging up and staying on the line, and other "hilarious" telephonic jokes, permeate the tense script and cut the tension throughout the narrative.

It took almost an hour and a half in a phone booth, but it seems Colin Farrell has redeemed himself from his lame role in *Daredevil*. And he didn't even have to don emasculating tights.

Poet explores spaces

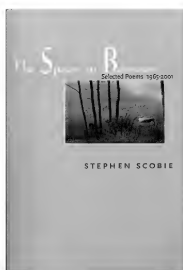
The Spaces in Between: Selected Poems 1965-2001

By Stephen Scobie
NewWest Press
163 pages

JOHN WHILAN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Stephen Scobie's been around. Originally from Scotland, he moved to Canada where he got his PhD at the University of British Columbia. He taught for twelve years at the U of A, and then landed in Victoria, where he currently finds himself teaching English. That's not that much moving around, you might say, many people relocate several times throughout their lives. That is that may be, what makes Scobie different from the average globetrotter is that wherever he goes, he writes about it extensively. That's where *The Spaces in Between* comes in.

The Spaces in Between is a collection of poems from Scobie's previous 20 or so works of poetry, not including his many biographies and literary commentaries. His poetry tends toward observations of the places he has lived and travelled, with emphasis on movement, change, and exploration. The title poem itself is a testament to the author's affinity for the spaces in between: "like silence between two words." This is where he prefers to be: in transit between two definitions. After reading a few of his poems, one gets the impression that Scobie has found the most profound moments of his life in between other situations; the indeterminate is where greatness is discovered, the direct sadness is felt, the most joy is savoured, and where life is lived.



Scobie's poetry tells of being alone, not having a home, and shifting from place to place. He also shows a love for Canada, observing his adopted country as the closest thing to a home that he wishes to possess.

The poems in *The Spaces in Between* are beautifully written. Usually in free form, with extensive and startling imagery, the work is characterized by detailed descriptions of scenes, paintings, people and situations. However, for all its visual scrutinizing, this is not active poetry. This is the work of someone sitting down and watching life as opposed to someone participating in it. Even when Scobie is travelling, he is only watching.

The Spaces in Between is a wonderful read if you let Scobie's words take you on an excursion of the literary type, free of all the hassle of interaction and simply settling for being an observer. Just don't be surprised if your trip takes you to places you weren't expecting.



DUDE BOMBIN' The Dudes played a crowded Likwid Lounge last Friday.

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Hedwig and the Angry Inch

The Roxy
3-4 April at 8pm

Hedwig and the Angry Inch is the story of a glam rocker who had a botched sex change, resulting in a remaining "inch." (She obviously has a lot of angst as a result. Made into a movie that never really hit a mainstream audience, but was a hit with most who saw it, *Hedwig*... is perfect for those who want to find their inner Ziggy Stardust.

Wide Mouth Mason

The Sidetrack Cafe
4-5 April at 10pm

Wide Mouth Mason is sort of like a local band that isn't from Edmonton. They have a show here at least once every six months, and they keep coming back.

It has become sort of passé to say that you like WMM, but you know what, I still think that their funky-style rock is A-OK, and you can't beat it out of me, if it makes you feel any better.

I like the high voice of the lead singer, I like the simple basslines, and, dammit, I like Gordie Johnson as their producer. You're not going to get me to stop liking them.

KungFu Weekend!

Metro Cinema
4-7 April at 7pm

Kick! Punch! It's all in the mind! Do you ever see those commercials for that Drive-in Classics station, showing all those kung fu movies, and beer like, "Man I wish I could see those movies, but

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Shikasta

with Agriculture Club, the Open Wounds, and the Dance Floor Disasters
PowerPlant
Thursday, 10 April at 7pm

Toronto-based "soul rock" group Shikasta has a focus on live shows and giving the audience the best show they can. It also helps that their lead singer is the younger incarnation of James Brown.

Although it's a bit difficult to figure out what is meant by the "soul rock" moniker they give themselves (but what do any monikers mean these days? I'm looking at you math-rock bands), they still pump out a unique soulful sound.

And don't worry, even though they're from Toronto, they don't have SARS.



The D.O.A. trio.

D.O.A.

Likwid Lounge
Saturday, 12 April at 8pm

The word "legend" is thrown around a lot, and sometimes it ends up becoming meaningless. In a few cases, however, that praise is warranted. Canadian punk rockers D.O.A. are such a case. How can the band that supposedly created the term

"hardcore" be anything but legends?

Releasing their first album in 1978, the Vancouver band is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, many more years than most punk bands can claim.

You might be in the middle of exams when this show hits town, but it's on a Saturday night and you'll have all Sunday to sleep off your hangover.

"Study For Exams"

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You're almost done. Whether you're just finishing your first year of university or you're completing your degree, the last day of classes is less than a week away. It's time to stop procrastinating, buckle down and start studying.

I'm sure you don't want to study, though you will have plenty of distractions to make you stop. That doesn't matter. You need to study.

See, if you don't study, you'll fail, and end up passing your class as a clown working for a subpar Mexican rodeo/wrestling operation. Like me.

Avril Lavigne

with Swollen Members and Gob
Syrnatch Centre
24 April at 7:30pm

OMG! Avril is coming to Edmonton! Who needs people like David Bowie or the Sex Pistols when you can have the vanilla pop punk of Avril Lavigne?

Personally, I'm so complicated that I just need to show up for this show—that and the fact that I am a sk8r boi.

Strangely Swollen Members and Gob, headliners in their own right, are opening for Avril, but I guess when you're next to greatness, even the big boys have to bow down.

DANIEL KASZOR
Circulation Manager

Coupland Crisis

Pre-eminent Canadian author Douglas Coupland seems to be losing his edge. His more recent works differ distinctly from the plotless tales that began his career. The *Gateway's* astute Book Editor Jhenifer Pabillano explains.

When I think of Douglas Coupland now, I think of a good friend who's gone astray in his career choice. He's that person with immense talent, but he's just not using all his gifts in the way he should.

Coupland, the remarkably successful Vancouver author, is best known as a pre-eminent chronicler of Generation X—in fact, his debut novel was even named *Generation X*. His first five novels were plotless wonders that dealt extensively with the lives and thoughts of the aimless post-baby boomer generation, clarifying and defining that group of disillusioned young people that no one quite knew what to do with. Coupland, as a gentle guide, even tore off fragments of pop culture and used them as clever metaphors to redefine and identify their experiences, while infusing them with an acerbic sense of humour. [“The extreme wealth of the high-IQ'd genetic gift baskets who won on the Punnet Square of life!”—*Microserfs*].

Plotless though these books were, there was brilliance in their construction. Coupland built hopelessly ordinary, enduringly familiar characters who encountered small revelations in the world around them, and struggled to understand themselves and the culture they were placed in. Their attempts to find meaning and sincerity in their lives rang painfully true: they coped with pressures to “get a life” while trying to muddle through

modern responsibilities and social dictums. Sure, they didn't do much, but Jesus, neither does anyone. That's what made them so brilliant.

The problem is, as *Spike Magazine* put it, it was probably tough for Coupland to keep writing fresh stories about twenty-somethings sitting around musing about life.

When I think of Douglas Coupland now, I think of a good friend who's gone astray in his career choice. He's that person with immense talent, but he's just not using all his gifts in the way he should.

Unfortunately, in shifting toward more traditional forms of literature, he's produced a string of dull, uninspired books that doesn't seem to have an end in sight.

2000's *Miss Wyoming* starkly revealed the new approach. He had to seek a new publisher, and found one in Random House. This new partnership, then, begat *Miss Wyoming*, the first Coupland book subjected to hard editing (*The Independent*: “Editor Jenny Minton, he says, ‘chal-

lenged every word’ in *Miss Wyoming*”).

But judging from *Wyoming*, which Coupland called a “better book than the others” in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, editing and the literary form seemed a mismatch for him.

The book, which chronicled the travails of a washed-up beauty queen and sitcom star, was a far cry from the fresh and compelling nature of his first five novels. Coupland abandoned his habits of daily note taking and constructed the entire thing from his imagination in one take, giving us over-the-top characters encountering half-baked fantastical situations in a mix that was neither convincing nor interesting. Sparkling metaphors that Coupland once used to aptly describe culture became jarring, overly clever devices, woefully misusing his skill with language [“Life looked at her with the unsure smile of a high school junior bracing himself to ask a girl one social notch above him to dance at the prom, his hands behind his back like a penitent child”—*Miss Wyoming*]. And the deeper themes of meaning and cultural recognition seemed forced and artificial, culminating in an overly sentimental ending that wanted to reveal endless truth but could not.

Later fiction efforts fared no better. 2001's *All Families Are Psychotic*, which tracked the story of a bizarre Vancouver family, provided the same terrible conclusions. I gave it a favour-



able review last year, but realized soon after how forgettable it was. This form of plot and structure that Coupland had set his sights on seemed to prove fatal for his work as an original, compulsively readable writer. Coupland, however, was increasingly buoyant about his works: to the *Seattle News Tribune*, he said, “This time it feels like I have really good characters... I want people to read this book and feel something. Hopefully, they will.”

It's telling, I think, that during all this time of change, there are still glimmers of the old Coupland in his non-fiction works: *City of Glass*, Coupland's 2000 book/tour guide about Vancouver, and 2002's *Souvenir of Canada*, a visual and written commentary on Canadian identity. In both books, Coupland uses his powerful talents to make these concepts and places real for us.

These talents, perhaps, should have been the basis of his evolution. Maybe instead of cavalierly soliciting new

and narrative should have been gently built up around them.

Plotlessness allowed Coupland to accentuate his ability to convey and contextualize modern living and the individual search for meaning. As Michael Brockington described in *Vancouver Review*, lack of plot let “the words precipitate out, leaving behind a pure extract of the chosen subculture.” Its absence left a profound impact be distilled from his writing, an impact now sorely missing from recent works.

It's true that authors should be permitted to change, and their growth and evolution can be key to their development as writers. But in this case, instead of creating exceptional pieces that stretch talent to new heights, it feels as though Coupland has suppressed his gifts of observation and insight to chase uninspired dreams of structure and form.

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Matt Good doesn't disappoint rabid fan

Matthew Good

with the Dears
The Joint
Friday, 28 March

ASIA SZKULIAREK
Arts & Entertainment Writer

After countless days of twitch-inducing anticipation spent listening to Matthew Good's newest album, *Avalanche*, I was finally able to see him in concert at the joint last week. And what better writer than me, his biggest fan, to bring you an objective, non-biased review of the show?

The Dears, from Montréal, began the show. Despite a solid set and occasional friendly banter from eccentric frontman Murray A. Lightburn, the group failed to evoke any extreme excitement in the audience.

Maybe it was because the showgoers were oblivious to the group's prior existence, or maybe it was because the joint's acoustics rival those of my cat's litter box. In any case, the crowd's lack of participation was a shame, really; the Dears take time getting used to, but their music is one of a kind.

The 30-minute interval between the opening act and Matthew Good was spent either running to the bar for more liquid refreshment, or keeping grip on the front railing to prevent being shoved to the back by people wearing overpriced *Avalanche* paraphernalia.

A voice yelling, "Are you ready to see Matthew Good LIVE?" every two minutes induced many groans from antsy impatient.

Finally, cued by deafening chanting



JAKE EDENLOFF

OH DEAR! Dears' frontman Murray A. Lightburn warms up the joint at the Matthew Good show last Friday.

and whooping, Matthew Good emerged from behind a veil of smoke and blue lights, launching into a flawless rendition of "Pledge of Allegiance," the first track from his new album.

In between songs ("Weapon," "Near Fantastica," "Apparitions" among others), he'd pause and talk to the sweaty mob, advocating Amnesty International and denouncing Ralph

Klein's support for the war on Iraq. Despite his apparent quirkiness, it took him a while to figure out "Ma Fugue Hood," a poster that emerged from the audience. "Despite popular opinion, I'm quite slow," he remarked, plucking his acoustic guitar and wandering around stage.

Although for the most part, Good's sound was surprisingly better than

the toilet bowl echo of the Dears, his voice was mildly drowned out now and then, particularly in "21st Century Living," a spoken song.

Mostly though, his vocals were just as resonant as on his albums, leaving behind an audience screaming for an encore. Good did not disappoint. He played two more songs and shook his head when a girl screamed "I love

you Matt!" from somewhere off to the side.

For a musician who broke a long-term relationship with his band mates, Matthew Good is doing good. His popularity hasn't dwindled since the release of *The Audio of Being*, and one can only imagine what his new-found status as solo artist will come up with next.

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Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) – Executive Director Job Description

Reporting to the Council of Alberta University Students membership in general and the Chair of the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) in particular, the Campaign Coordinator for the CAUS will coordinate and develop campaigns based on CAUS policy and approved by the member including but not limited to an external media campaign and a MLA lobby tour. The coordinator will also provide some research, communications, administrative to the CAUS.

Qualifications:

- Undergraduate university degree in a field such as Political Science, Sociology, Canadian Studies, History, Communications or related fields of study.
- Excellent and demonstrable writing and communication skills, including ability to write press releases and background documents
- Computer skills: Microsoft Word, Excel, and Access, with website development skills a strong asset.
- Strong knowledge of the provincial and federal context of post-secondary education, with an ability to analyze policy trends, technical papers, and budget information
- Administrative experience and experience in project management
- Highly organized and able to juggle several different tasks at once
- Demonstrated ability to organize and develop campaigns
- Ability to work independently

Responsibilities:

- Develop and coordinate campaigns based on CAUS policy.
- Propose and implement at least two province-wide campaigns on issues identified by the CAUS membership as being pressing, timely, and of concern to Alberta's university students.
- Day-to-day administration of the CAUS
- Assist the researchers at member institutions in gathering all pertinent information on the province of Alberta's post-secondary policies and funding, as well as inter-provincial research in order to design well-researched campaigns
- Maintain communication with the provincial government, including coordinating an annual MLA lobby tour, and meetings with the provincial Minister of Learning, the Minister of Human Resources, and the Premier of Alberta
- Maintain a CAUS media presence by responding to all provincial issues of relevance to Alberta university students
- Maintain both a proactive and reactive media presence by responding to government policy directions and by implementing CAUS campaigns

Relationships:

- The CAUS Executive Director will take direction and report to the CAUS membership. The Campaign Executive Director is responsible for designing and implementing campaigns and other strategic initiatives for the CAUS membership based on CAUS policy.
- The Campaign Executive Director will work closely with the researchers at the member schools in the gathering of information, policy analysis, and strategic policy advice to better aid in government relations and in designing appropriate campaign materials.
- The Campaign Executive Director will work closely with the communications officers at the member schools in order to coordinate responses to government post-secondary policies and in order to effectively implement campaigns

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A Man Apart can't keep it together

A Man Apart

Directed by F Gary Gray
Starring Vin Diesel, Timothy Olyphant,
and Lorenz Tate
Opens Friday, 4 April

JAMES JOHNSON
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Everybody loves gritty cop dramas and movies about cocaine, not to mention the raw sex appeal of Vin Diesel, right? So, doing the Hollywood math, this should be an instant hit. Make no mistake, though, *A Man Apart* is a total Vin Diesel wankfest.

Leading man Diesel plays a dual role: the main character in the film, and the executive producer. Other characters are barely even worth mentioning.

The premise of this film is that Sean Vetter (Diesel) is a member of an elite group of narcotics agents. But these are no ordinary narcotics agents; they're from "the street," which means nothing more than they have a little bit more street cred than your average narc. They aren't working for the man, they're just doing what's right. Oh yeah, and they live-talk and play by their own rules.

The film begins with Vetter and his fellow narcs capturing a Colombian drug lord and putting him away in prison. Shortly thereafter, a rival—a real charmer who goes by Diablo—jumps in to take his place with the utmost ruthlessness. One of the first things he does, of course, is go after the cop who put the drug lord behind bars. Diesel gets hospitalized, and his



DIESEL POWER For all its promises of excitement, *A Man Apart* falls flat.

gets wife killed.

That all happens within the first 15 minutes. Maybe if it ended there it could be passed off as something worth watching. Unfortunately, the rest of the film is one big cliché with a rap/rock soundtrack. Diesel goes on the warpath, becoming the archetypal rogue cop complete with the obligatory "you can't kick me off the force; this case is all I have" speech.

Now, I understand Diesel's character is supposed to be a grieving man, but there's no humanity to him. Whereas films like *Traffic* and *Blow* showed the human side of drug enforcement agents, and drug traffickers, *A Man Apart* is content to show the human side of the writers. Yes, writers do make mis-

takes, too. Characters are caricatures, and no more than fails to Diesel's grieving psychosis at that. Even the plot is a poor excuse to string together messily edited shoot-outs and posturing.

I hope I'm not ruining anything by saying the good guys win in the end. Such is par for the course when speaking of a film with a moral structure as "complex" as this one. Good guys are good, bad guys are bad, no matter what they do.

And no matter how much was lost, the film inexplicably ends on a positive note. It's mindless, superficial drivel.

It's good to see Diesel cashing in his 15 minutes of fame on worthwhile projects.

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Duo Majoya makes up words and sounds

Duo Majoya

Marnie Giesbrecht and Joachim Segger
The Winspear Centre
Friday, 4 April at 8pm

ADAM ROZENHART
Entertainment Editor

Most university professors probably begin upon the making up of words. Students are, after all, academics who should be learned in the ways of language. It's surprising to learn then, that U of A music professor Dr. Marnie Giesbrecht and King's University College professor Dr. Joachim Segger made up a word they use rather frequently.

"We call ourselves Duo Majoya. The 'Ma' comes from my name, and the 'jo' comes from his. And the 'ya' is just 'ya,'" says Giesbrecht. "It sounds a little exotic and it's just kind of fun."

That's essentially what Giesbrecht and Segger's partnership boils down to: trying out exotic new sounds on the piano and organ, and just having fun. Together as Duo Majoya for well over a decade, the pair's partnership began long before the making up of words.

"We have been playing together for as long as I can remember—since we were teenagers, actually," Giesbrecht recalls.

The duo met at a summer music

camp on Vancouver Island. Both were residents of Edmonton at the time, and both were studying under the same piano teacher. However, while they both still played piano, they both also studied the organ.

"We have one piece on the program that is an organ duet," says Giesbrecht. "It's a wonderful nineteenth-century three-movement organ piece with a fabulous fugue at the end of it, and it'll really open up the whole organ—show off the organ."

"I'm not kidding you, everything just rocks, and it's really a powerful experience."

**MARNIE GIESBRECHT,
ON THE WINSPEAR'S ORGAN**

Giesbrecht is eager to play at the Winspear, not only because it's a wonderful venue, but also because of the powerful organ installed last September. The world-class Davis Concert Organ is named after Dr. Stuart Davis, a retired chemistry professor, and his late wife Winona. The organ boasts 96 stops, 122 ranks, and 6551 pipes. Giesbrecht has played on the Winspear's organ before, but she is looking forward to playing it again

nonetheless.

"We're so lucky. It's just a wonderful instrument, and it's so full of all kinds of colours," says Giesbrecht, adding, "When you put it together, it has these wonderful chorus-like sounds, ensemble kinds of sounds. And of course the hall is very reverberant, so it just enhances the sound of the organ. It's a powerful instrument, but it's also a very beautiful instrument."

The Winspear is meant to be a first-class concert hall. So how does the Centre and its new organ chalk up against other halls like it?

"Interestingly enough, very well," says Giesbrecht emphatically. She notes that the Winspear's organ is as great as good as that of the Notre Dame in Paris.

"As soon as I tried it back in September, I thought, 'This really reminds me...' When you're up in Notre Dame, you're on the gallery, right under the organ, and everything just rocks and shakes with the vibrations of the organ. Exactly the same thing happens at the Winspear, because you're sitting underneath the big trumpets and right in the middle of the 32-foot pipes for the pedals. And I'm not kidding you, everything just rocks, and it's really a powerful experience."

Made up words might not matter to Duo Majoya, but feeling and enthusiasm of the pair cannot be faked.

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Zao

All Else Failed
Solid State Records
www.solidstaterecords.comLEAH COLLINS
Associate News Editor

The thought of Christian music can evoke everything from Amy Grant/Creed cross-over pap, to gospel soul, to heavenly choirs.

And with the inclusion of *All Else Failed*, the new album from Zao, the sound of spiritual inspiration seems to now be transmitted through the screeches of a sabre-tooth tiger in heat.

Certainly, Christian pop has found a place in just about every musical genre, but Zao's heavy metal hallelujahs seem to suggest the band forgot to take a good reflective look at their "What Would Jesus Do?" bracelets.

Far be it for a lowly Gateway CD reviewer to question Zao's personal lord and savior, but no mortal should have to endure a 13-minute track of thunderstorm sound bites overlaid with random man-moans and slide-whistles.

The lyrics are apparently très biblical, "Ps 77," as the title suggests, is a straight-up cover of the 77th Psalm, but aside from the occasional recognition of a bleeding-throat garbling of "He is God," the tone of *All Else Failed* is less inspirational than hellishly boring.

Ben Harper

Diamonds on the Inside
Virgin Records
www.benharper.netLEAH COLLINS
Associate News Editor

Perhaps Zao should have instead pondered "What Would Ben Harper

Do?"

Harper's new CD, *Diamonds on the Inside*, is a smooth and diverse album that rarely forgets the spiritual side of things. There's plenty of explicit references to the J-word, but not in the big-bad angry God way of Zao. *Diamonds on the Inside* is instead a treasure of melodies of comfort and light.

Harper's subdued and gentle croon glides over simplistic but weighty lyrics, to the tune of reggae ("With my Own Two Hands"), country-fied sing-a-long songs ("Diamonds on the Inside"), and classic funk ("Bring the Funk"). Alt-rock tracks like "So High So Low" come off like half-hearted Lenny Kravitz karaoke, but otherwise, Harper gives it his all on this album: a whole lot of neo-hippie soul.

SITE UNSEEN



www.happytreefriends.com

JOEL CHURRY
Sports Hero

If you have cable, you have undoubtedly stumbled across the Treehouse network. This network thrives on keeping stupid, young audiences even stupider, as the

English language is only an afterthought. Self-described as "Woody-free Preschool Television," it ends up giving children a large source of moron-in-a-can.

There is a solution for those perturbed by the overload of cute and cuddly Enter Mondo Mini-show's *Happy Tree Friends*.When first introduced to these sadistic short shorts, it was after I asked my trusty video store clerk to suggest something best watched while...relaxed. He immediately pointed out the *Tree Friends* DVD. What ensued was a night of horror and laughter. I had no idea what was going to be on that disc, but now I can't stop watching these ultra-violent gore-fests.

The show entails, er, I mean entails an opening that has a theme song that can only be described as addictive and repulsive at the same time. In each episode, the characters are generally all killed off before the short ends.

If you agree that baby-tan stunts child learning patterns, the you'll enjoy the brutal satire of *Worry-Abundant* Preschool Television.

CULTURA OBSCURA



"Bin Ladens" sticker

JAIN LILICH
Production Editor

This lovely little "Bin Ladens" sticker was picked up at a dusty stall in the local market of a village in West Africa. While the printing may be crude, and the portrait somewhat blurry, one can clearly make out a plane flying over Mr bin Laden's head, with the sun setting radiantly behind.

One of the many pieces of pro-bin Laden merchandise available for purchase in the region, these stickers can be had for a measly 50 cents, making the perfect accompaniment to the bin Laden T-shirts and bin Laden posters that are equally widespread.

It would appear that in some parts of the world, profits matter more than good taste, with every money-making opportunity being fully exploited. With that kind of capitalistic gumption, even America would be proud.

Chucho Valdés

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We have six pairs of tickets to give away. The first three pairs are for the Chucho Valdés show, and the last three are for La Bottine Souriante. In order to win any pair of these tickets, you just have to answer this very simple piece of trivia.

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System of a Down
Steal This Album!
 American Recordings
www.systemofadown.com

KRIS BOREZANSKI
 Arts & Entertainment Writer

A politically charged group of demos, B-sides and rarities make up *Steal This Album!*, a recording that equals the quality of any previous System of a



Ashley MacIsaac
Self-titled
 Decca Records
www.ashley-macisaac.com

JOANNA CLARK
 Arts & Entertainment Writer

Ashley MacIsaac is someone whose style is that of no other, and if we have



Stereomud
Every Given Moment
 Sony Records
www.stereomud.com

MICHAEL FOWLE
 Arts & Entertainment Writer

Stereomud's latest is a throwaway.

First, the band name gives away any suspense about what to expect, just like fellow nu-metalers Godsmack and Disturbed.

Second, the title, which suggests a carpe diem attitude focused on present satisfaction, is terribly misleading.

Down album.

Coming off the huge success of *Toxicity*, a collection of songs that didn't make the album were leaked to the Internet. Because of their poor quality, SOAD decided to turn those leaked tracks into a new album that also features a few other unreleased tracks from the SOAD collection.

With shots at the corporate advertising system ("Chic 'N' Stu"), blind patriotism ("I-E-A-I-A-I-O") and the military ("Niguns," "Boom!") SOAD make their strongest protest album yet, while managing to retain their specific sound (contrary to popular belief, you can't classify them as nu-metal; in fact you can't classify them at all).

Steal This Album! probably won't win any new fans, but anyone who appreciates SOAD's past work will love to hear how good the songs that didn't make *Toxicity* are.

an ounce of liberalism in us, that's what we want.

If you're expecting repetition throughout the album, forget it. MacIsaac mixes voices, instrumentals and tones all over. Don't be scared—if you like one song at first, the others will probably grow on you (but don't start with "Mull of Kintyre"; it's not nearly as favourable as the original). You'll enjoy "Cello Song," during which you will hear a short introduction reminiscent of Baz Luhrmann's *Sunscreen*, and "Grapes," on which MacIsaac's voice reaches quite an incredible pitch.

MacIsaac strives to give us something we don't normally get when we resign ourselves to the top 40. Looking for something creative? MacIsaac will give you something to talk about.

The lyrics instead focus on past emotional injustices, with passive voice verses revealing a man unable to realize he is responsible for his own life. Look no further than the opening lines of "Control Freak": "Something I need you won't let me have / Don't shut me out, you don't know me yet." Could they whine a little more about what "you" are doing to them? Get a grip.

Third, there's no creativity in any of the song topics, which inevitably focus only on dark mysterious interpersonal relationships.

Fourth, the x-ray hand, muddle of gears and detached tattoo band photos are so uncreatively nu-metal, it hurts. So uncreative, that the chorus of "Define This" becomes a parody of itself by saying, "You cannot define this / There's nothing like it."

I beg to differ. *Every Given Moment* sounds so much like *Animosity*—last year's release from present tourmates Sevendust—that Sevendust should sue Stereomud for copyright infringement.



Jazzberry Ram
Landshark
 Green Tea Music
www.jazzberryram.com

JAMES JOHNSON
 Arts & Entertainment Writer

Jazzberry Ram is one of those gems that seem to fly under the radar of popular music. They're known across the country for their unusual blend of jazz, funk, ska, pop, rock and rap, and good-time party music.

However, their new album *Landshark* seems to be strangely devoid of the good times. Across the saucy opening track "Lick It," the album is fairly mellow, the bulk of the album being piano-driven ballads.

Tracks like "A Space In Time" or "Vancouver Town" are funk filled but act as socially conscious party anthems. Either way, Jazzberry Ram doesn't fail to offer diversity, or thoughtful lyrics.



Open Hand
The Dream
 Trustkill Records
www.openhandmusic.com

JAMES JOHNSON
 Arts & Entertainment Writer

You can't judge a band by its label. Take for example the band Open Hand. Their label, Trustkill Records, is host to some of the world's most brutal hardcore bands, so you'd expect pretty much the same from Open Hand on their debut.

Not so. You'd get a better idea by looking at the album's title. *The Dream*, as the album is chock full of the most sedate emote created, including ridiculous falsettos.

The instrumental work is unimaginative. The only track that shows some true cohesion, ironically enough, is the hidden track "626," but by then, you're already lulled into the dream.

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 —New York Times

Your elected executive for this year are:

President – Mike Hudema
 president@su.ualberta.ca
 VP Academic – Mat Brechtel
 vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca
 VP External – Anand Sharma
 vp.external@su.ualberta.ca
 VP Operations and Finance – Steve Smith
 vp.finance@su.ualberta.ca
 VP Student Life – Kail Ross
 vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca



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Upcoming Events:

April 9th- Last Day of Classes
April 5th- Kazzer, and Fifth Season, with guests Retrograde and Star Collector. Doors @ 8:30 pm, the Powerplant. \$10 advance tickets.
April 8th- Fred Eaglesmith, with guests Mark Davis and The Youngbucks. Doors @ 8:30 pm, the Powerplant. \$15 advance tickets.
April 10th - CJSK and The Powerplant present Hard Soul with *Shikasta*, *The Open Wounds*, *Agriculture Club* and *The Dance Floor Disasters*. Doors @ 8:30 pm, the Powerplant. \$7 at the door.
April 12-26: Winter term exams

A message from your VP External

This is your VP External Anand Sharma signing out for the year! Before I go though, I wanted to thank all the people who made my Students' Union experience an unforgettable one, as well as the people who make the Students' Union work for you on a daily basis.

Thanks to the entire administrative staff including Margaret Stasiuk, Catherine van de Braak, Jennifer Bloomfield and Tashie Macapagal for their dedication and patience throughout the year; all of you were so instrumental in accomplishing the goals set out by myself and my colleagues.

Shannon Phillips and Christine McCourt have been the "brains" behind this executive. The importance of solid research and communicating our message to the public cannot be understated as it is crucial to the lobbying, outreach and activism goals of the Students' Union. Thanks to both of you for your hard work in fighting to ensure student issues are at the forefront of Albertans' minds.

Fred Jack is this year's Community Relations Coordinator who assists the VP External with the day-to-day operations of the external portfolio. I can honestly say that Fred has gone above and beyond his duties, always happy and eager to assist on projects, coordinate the High School Leadership Conference and the SU portion of the Chancellor's Cup, and representing students on external committees. Thank you Fred for all your assistance this year. Your strong contribution to the students is commendable.

Dedicated and passionate: these are the two words I would use to describe this year's External Affairs Board. This year the EAB met a record 18 times (including Friday nights!) and were crucial in reviewing our partnership in CASA, determining lobbying priorities both provincially and federally, helping design an external media campaign, coordinating the "Freeze the Fees" campaign, organizing and volunteering for the High School Leadership Conference, and passing many, many political policies that will benefit students both current and prospective. To HY, SK, TM, LC, KK, CS, SG, RC, DF, ZT, CJ: you all are the best, it was such an honour and pleasure working with you this year!

This year's Student Council has been a council that has challenged the status quo, and were key in implementing and approving a great number of initiatives set out by the year's Executive. Hack or no hack, all councillors should feel proud of what they helped to accomplish this year. We have set the Students' Union on a brand new path, one that embraces activism, but recognizes the need for lobbying as well. An Ecological Sustainability Office calls for a freeze in tuition and the mobilization of students, greater student consultation and accountability, a new focus on provincial lobbying and small initiatives to improve the daily lives of students can all be attributed to the commitment

and dedication of this year's Student Council.

To my fellow executive members Mike, Kail, Steve, and Mat, it was an honour to work with each and every one of you. We've spent hundreds of hours working side by side, and I've learned so much from each of you. We are all five VERY different people, but somehow we worked together and accomplished many of our goals together. Qualities like honesty (Kail), undying commitment (Mike), the importance of balance (Mat), and the ability to gross people out (Steve) are just a fraction of what you bring to the table on a daily basis.

I would like to thank EVERY staff member in the Students' Union (facilities staff, service and business staff, management, marketing and design, student services, accounting) a big THANK YOU for all of your hard work this year. It has, with all sincerity, been a distinct pleasure to meet, work with and get to know many of you. I'll miss you all, and am proud to have been part of our great organization, the Students' Union.

Finally, a special thanks to all my friends and family who have been my support throughout the year. Being an executive member is a wonderful experience, but it has ups and downs, and can be very demanding. Often birthdays are missed, relationships strained due to a lack of time, and you find yourself always complaining about aspects of work. I can say with all honesty that many of my friends and family have stuck by me even when I didn't deserve their support. Thank you.

This year has been a wonderful learning experience for myself personally; I couldn't have learned what I have without you, the students who elected me in March of last year. I thank you for putting your trust in me, and only hope I didn't fall short in your expectations of me. Thank you so much, and see you in class!

Sincerely,

Anand Sharma
 Vice-President External
 University of Alberta Students' Union

The Students' Union would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our campaigns and projects this past year.



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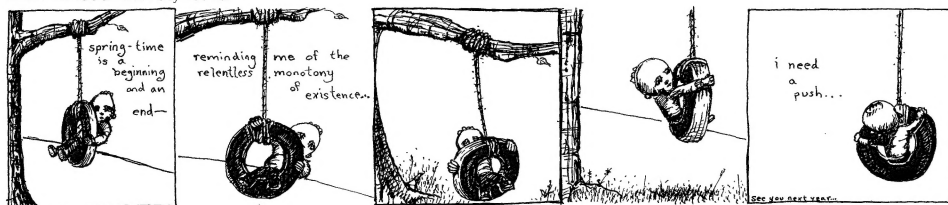
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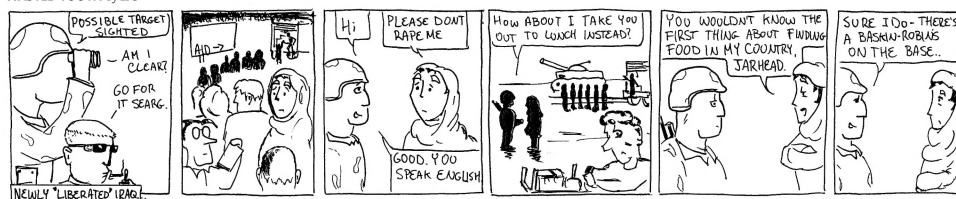
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